

# STARS AND STRIPES<sup>®</sup>

**Devers qualifies  
for shot at third  
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Pat Monahan, lead singer of Train

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Volume 2, No. 101 © EPSS 2004 MIDEAST EDITION

TUESDAY, JULY 20, 2004

## Marine who vanished in Iraq says he did not desert post

Hassoun says he was captured by anti-coalition forces Page 4



### Truck bomb kills 9 in Iraq

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An Iraqi soldier walks past a charred vehicle hit Monday during an attack at a police station in the Seidiyeh neighborhood in Baghdad. A white fuel tanker plowed towards a police station, detonating and killing at least nine people and wounding about 60 others.

AP

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**STARS & STRIPES**  
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## News Tracker ... What's new with old news

### States

**Janet Jackson scandal:** CBS will fight any fines leveled against its television stations over Janet Jackson's starting Super Bowl performance, a top executive with parent company Viacom Inc. said.

CBS could face a Federal Communications Commission fine of \$550,000 or a maximum penalty of \$27,500 for each of 20 CBS-owned stations. An FCC staff recommendation did not call for fining CBS affiliates that aired the Super Bowl halftime show, but many of those are not owned by Viacom.

**Los Alamos probe:** A security probe got under way at the troubled Los Alamos National Laboratory in Albuquerque, N.M., even as more allegations of security lapses rolled in.

Deputy Energy Secretary Kyle McSlarrow was expected to visit Monday, joining Linton Brooks, director of the National Nuclear Security Administration, who arrived Sunday. Brooks' visit came as the lab responded to yet another report of security lapses — an unconfirmed, anonymous tip released by the Project on Government Oversight, or POGO, reporting that classified information had been sent over the lab's unclassified e-mail system 17 times in recent months.

**Gun dealer inspections:** The federal agency that checks compliance with gun laws inspects only about 4.5 percent of the nation's federally licensed gun dealers each year, far below the agency's own goals, according to a Justice Department review released Monday.

At that rate, it would take the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives 22 years to inspect all 104,000 federally licensed gun dealers, according to the review by Glenn A. Fine, the Justice Department inspector general. ATF's goal is to check each dealer once every three years.

**Tax-cut extension:** A bipartisan group of senators wants Republican leaders to consider extending three of President Bush's most popular tax cuts without forcing the federal budget deeper into red ink. The group plans to propose extending tax cuts for wage earners, married couples and parents for a year. They would cover the \$30 billion cost of preserving those tax cuts by ending abused tax shelters and extending customs service fees, aides to the senators said.

### World

**Lebanon car-bombing:** A car bomb explosion in south Beirut killed a longtime Hezbollah guerrilla commander who led many operations against Israel. Hezbollah's leader blamed Israel's agents for the assassination.



**Rail security:** Jane Amrose, a rider of Connecticut's Shoreline East, collects her belongings after being screened for explosives while boarding the train Monday at the Old Saybrook, Conn., station. Monday marked the first day that passengers may be screened for explosives while boarding the train as part of a test program called Transit and Rail Inspection Pilot (TRIP). TRIP uses railcars equipped with screening technology for baggage and tickets. The Transportation Security Administration will be running the program for a 30-day period.

nation and vowed to "cut off their hands." Ghaleb Awali, 40, died instantly when the bomb went off in the morning when he started his car in the Shiite Muslim Hezbollah stronghold, according to Lebanese security officials.

**Jenkins in Japan:** The United States may be willing to defer prosecution of a former U.S. soldier accused of defecting to North

Korea nearly 40 years ago but is not willing to give up on seeking his return from Japan to face charges, the State Department said Monday.

State Department spokesman Richard Boucher said "we are considerate of the humanitarian situation" and of Jenkins' medical condition. So, Boucher said, "while we do expect to present a legal request for custody at the appropriate time, we won't be doing that right away."

**Serbian war criminals:** NATO Secretary-General Jaap de Hoop Scheffer warned Serbian leaders Monday that their chances of establishing closer ties with the alliance depend on their willingness to arrest and hand over top war crimes suspects.

Pressure is mounting on Serbia to capture and extradite Bosnian Serb wartime commander Ratko Mladic, wanted by the U.N. war crimes tribunal in The Hague, Nether-

lands, for the 1995 massacre of up to 8,000 Muslim men and boys.

**Genetically modified corn:** European Union governments deadlocked Monday on an application to allow imports of an herbicide-resistant corn for human consumption, but the bloc's executive body approved the same product's use for animal feed.

**Madrid terror attacks:** The judge investigating the Madrid terror attacks warned on Monday that although many of those suspected of carrying out the bombing have been jailed or killed, others who provided logistical support may be taking over operations.

In his written ruling, Judge Juan Del Olmo did not specify the number of people who helped the March 11 bombers and were still at large, but he pointed out that at least one of the suspected bombers fled the apartment outside Madrid where seven suspects blew themselves up April 3 to avoid arrest.

**Kashmir bombing:** A key minister in the Indian portion of Kashmir survived a second apparent attempt on his life when a bomb exploded at a public rally Monday, killing five people and wounding at least 50 others, police said.

Deputy Chief Minister Mangam Ram Sharma was at a public gathering in Kapran, a remote village in India's Jammu-Kashmir state, when a bomb went off near the speakers' podium, police officer Syed Ashiq said. Sharma escaped injury.

Photo and stories from wire services

## Correction

In Sunday's editions a photo of a Marine major completing a 135-mile trek in Iraq contained the incorrect name of the photographer. The photo was taken by Bill Lisbon of the U.S. Marine Corps.

## Messages of Support

★ Our thanks for the many sleepless nights in the desert, or for the sand that is pinging your face, or for your lips being chapped from the harsh winds. Our heart felt thanks for the times your heart races from fear, or for the times that you wish you were in the comforts of home.

Our heart felt thanks for the sacrifices you are making so I can have all the freedom and comforts that your hardship brings me. I hope in time that your rewards will be great and that you know how very proud we are of the things that you are doing to make our lives easy. We

love and support your efforts!!!!!! Thank You for all the sacrifices. Our prayers are with you. Heidi

★ To: Vernon, We are so proud of you and hope that you are alright. Contact us when you can. Your husband.

# Suicide truck bomber kills 9 in Baghdad

## Iraqi military supply chief assassinated

BY RAVI NESSMAN  
The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — A suicide bomber in a fuel truck blew it up early Monday at a police station in southwest Baghdad, killing nine people and wounding 60 as the inferno engulfed civilians and officers waiting for their daily assignments, officials and witnesses said.

Later, the Defense Ministry said militants killed Essam al-Dijaili, the head of the military's supply department, in a drive-by shooting as he walked into his house in Baghdad.

The morning blast outside the police station in the Seidiyeh neighborhood, the latest in a string of deadly attacks on police, came as officers gathered to receive their daily assignments.

Insurgents throughout Iraq have used car bombs, roadside bombs and other weapons to target police, whom they view as collaborators with U.S. forces.

The explosion leveled car repair garages and other industrial workshops. Cars were crushed under concrete, while others turned into flaming wrecks. Corrugated metal roofs were twisted and chunks of buildings were scattered hundreds of yards away.

"We were all standing in a row, listening to our officer as he gave us our assignment for the day," said Mehdi Salah Abed Ali, 32, lying in a bed at al-Yarmuk hospital, a bandage around his leg.

"There were many policemen standing in the square when the tanker exploded," he said. The explosion took place just after 8 a.m.

In the assassination of al-Dijaili, four gunmen drove up as he was carrying dinner into his home Sunday night and opened fire, killing him and his bodyguard, said Mishal al-Sarraf, an adviser to the defense minister.

"He was killed in cold blood by the evil hands of the followers of the former regime," al-Sarraf said.

The assassination was the latest attack on senior Iraqi officials. Assassins killed the governor of Nineveh Province last week and tried unsuccessfully to assassinate the country's justice minister. They have also targeted police officers, accusing them of being collaborators with U.S. forces.



An explosion leaves a crater at the site of an insurgent attack at a police station in the Seidiyeh neighborhood of Baghdad on Monday. A white fuel tanker was detonated near a police station, killing nine people and wounding about 60 others.

## U.S. deaths in Iraq

The Associated Press

As of Friday, 886 U.S. servicemembers have died since the beginning of military operations in Iraq in March 2003, according to the Defense Department. Of those, 654 died as a result of hostile action and 232 died of nonhostile causes. The department did not provide an update over the weekend.

The British military has reported 59 deaths; Italy, 18; Spain, eight; Bulgaria and Poland, six each; Ukraine, four; Slovakia, three; Thailand, two; Denmark, El Salvador,

Latvia and the Netherlands have reported one death each.

Since May 1, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 748 U.S. servicemembers have died — 545 as a result of hostile action and 203 of nonhostile causes, according to the Defense Department as of Friday.

The latest deaths reported by military:

■ No deaths reported.

The latest identifications reported by the military:

■ No identifications reported.

nearby car wash.

"I was standing with a friend when we saw the tanker speeding in an unusual way," Nouri said, describing the driver as a young man with a light beard.

The tanker exploded roughly 490 feet from the fenced-in, two-story police station.

After the attack, protesters gathered and chanted, "Long live Saddam!" before police came in and dispersed them by firing in the air.

In another attack on law officers, the body of Lt. Col. Nafi al-Kubaisi, the police chief of the town of Heet, was discovered Monday at a market in nearby Fallujah, officials said. Al-Kubaisi had been kidnapped Saturday from his police station, said Capt. Nasir Abdullah.

In other violence, a bomb exploded near a military base in Baquba, north of the capital, injuring two young shepherds, said Ali Hameid al-Jobori, an official at Baquba's main hospital.

Also Monday, Turkmenistan broadcaster Leith Hussein Ali was killed and two others were injured when their car came under fire in the northern city of Mosul, police said.

## Philippines withdraws final troops from Iraq

BY JIM GOMEZ  
The Associated Press

MANILA, Philippines — The Philippines said Monday that it has completed the withdrawal of its peacekeeping contingent from Iraq, meeting a demand by Iraqi insurgents threatening to behead a Filipino hostage but defying opposition from Washington.

The last members of the 51-strong force made an "exit call" on the new Polish commander at their base in Hillah, south of Baghdad, then waved as they left in six cars.

Iraqi police said the final contingent of troops drove over the border into Kuwait in a three-car convoy about 4:55 p.m.

Foreign Secretary Delia Albert said they would travel by road to Kuwait, a several-hour trip, then take a commercial flight home.

They had been scheduled to leave Iraq on Aug. 20.

Some of Manila's allies, including the United States and Australia, have sharply criticized the withdrawal decision, engineered to save the life of truck driver Angelo dela Cruz. They argue it encourages terrorists and endangers other coalition members in Iraq.

There was no immediate word on the fate of dela Cruz. Philippine diplomats in Iraq were waiting to hear from the kidnappers' emissaries, a Philippine official said.

"We have fulfilled our commitment, and so it's their turn to fulfill their promise. We are waiting," the official said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

The insurgents who snatched dela Cruz on July 7 near Fallujah,

killing his Iraqi security guard, have said they would free the 46-year-old father of eight once the last Filipino troops had left.

A prominent pressure group for overseas workers, Migrant, welcomed the withdrawal, but also urged President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo to withdraw all support for the U.S.-led force, fearing that 4,000 Filipino contract workers in Iraq and more than 1.4 million others in the Middle East could be in danger.

Relatives of dela Cruz in the northern province of Pampanga were overjoyed and prayed after hearing of plans to complete the withdrawal Monday. They urged the kidnappers to free him.

"I'm happy that the troops are on their way back," said Feliciano de la Cruz Jr., the hostage's younger brother. "I hope my brother follows them home."

## Insurgents free Egyptian hostage

BAGHDAD — An Egyptian truck driver held hostage for two weeks by insurgents in Iraq was freed Monday and taken to the Egyptian Embassy here, according to witnesses and embassy officials.

The man, Alsayeid Mohammed Alsayeid Algharabawi, was reported captured July 6 when a group calling itself the Iraqi Legitimate Resistance released a video showing him surrounded by masked gunmen.

He was brought into the embassy Monday evening, witnesses said.

Algharabawi's family exploded in celebration on hearing the news. His wife, Laila, ululated. "We are parting downstairs," his out-of-breath son Essam said when reached by telephone in their home in the Nile Delta town of Zagazig, 40 miles northeast of Cairo.

The group holding Algharabawi — which claimed to have snatched him as he drove a fuel truck from Saudi Arabia to the U.S. military in Iraq — never threatened him, but made a series of demands on his Saudi company, including asking for \$1 million ransom and insisting it stop doing business in Iraq.

The company refused the ransom, but agreed to end its business here, according to Faisal al-Nahet, a subcontractor who had been speaking on behalf of the Al-Jarrie Transport company.

In response to the kidnapping, Egypt advised its citizens to stop seeking work in Iraq.

From The Associated Press

# Marine says he did not desert his post in Iraq

BY MATTHEW BARAKAT

The Associated Press

QUANTICO, Va. — Cpl. Wassef Ali Hassoun, the Marine who disappeared under mysterious circumstances while on duty in Iraq, insisted on Monday that he was captured by enemy forces and that he is still a loyal Marine.

"I did not desert my post," he told reporters outside Quantico Marine Corps Base. "I was captured and held against my will by anti-coalition forces for 19 days. This was a very difficult and challenging time for me."

He did not answer any questions during his brief appearance. He was joined by his brother, who arrived from Utah.

"I would like to tell all the Marines as well as all those others serving in Iraq to keep their heads up and spirits high. Once a Marine, always a Marine, Semper Paratus," Hassoun said, invoking the Marine Corps motto, Latin for "always faithful."

Marine spokesman Lt. Col. Dave Lapan said the Marine Corps was not in a position to confirm or refute Hassoun's claim.

Hassoun, 24, of West Jordan, Utah, disappeared June 20 from his base near the troubled Iraqi city of Fallujah and turned up unharmed at the U.S. Embassy in Beirut on July 8. It remains unclear how he traveled from Iraq to Lebanon, where he was born and still has some relatives.

On June 27, Arab television showed a videotape of a blindfolded Hassoun, a sword hanging over his head. At one point during his disappearance, a group claiming to represent his captors announced that he had been beheaded after being lured from the base by a love affair.

The military is investigating whether the reported kidnapping was a hoax and whether the Muslim Hassoun deserted his post.

Hassoun is in the midst of what the Marines call a



U.S. Marine Cpl. Wassef Ali Hassoun, center, who disappeared in Iraq and turned up in Lebanon three weeks later, heads to a van after arriving at Quantico, Va., on Thursday. On Monday, Hassoun said he was captured and held against his will by anti-coalition forces for 19 days.

"repatriation process" in which he is debriefed and given time to decompress and avoid the media spotlight, officials said.

Hassoun arrived at Quantico last week after six days of medical evaluation at a military hospital in Germany. In the coming days, he will leave Quantico for Camp Lejeune, N.C., his home base, Lapan said. He will continue the repatriation process there, Lapan said.

The Naval Criminal Investigation Service is not expected to question Hassoun until his repatriation procedure is completed, the Marine Corps said.

Lapan said the Marine Corps reviewed Hassoun's statement and made no changes.

Marine officials said it may be weeks or months before Hassoun returns to active duty.



Afghan President Hamid Karzai, right, shakes hands with Polish Prime Minister Marek Belka during a meeting Monday at the presidential palace in Kabul, Afghanistan. Belka said Poland could send troops to Afghanistan as part of a planned pullback from Iraq.

## Polish troops could shift to Afghanistan

The Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan — Poland could send troops to Afghanistan as part of a planned pullback from Iraq, Prime Minister Marek Belka said Monday, but not in time to boost security for milestone October elections here.

Poland plans to cut its troop levels in Iraq from about 2,400 to between 1,000 and 1,500 by January. There are only about a dozen Poles with the NATO-led peacekeeping force in Afghanistan.

After talks with Afghan President Hamid Karzai, Belka said international missions in Iraq and Afghanistan were "equally important, equally difficult."

"I would imagine the situation, when needed, that we could relocate some of our people here," Belka told reporters. "But it's a matter of the future, not immediate decisions."

He didn't elaborate.

NATO is currently expanding its 6,400-strong peacekeeping force to some 8,700 in the run-up to Afghanistan's first-ever direct presidential election on Oct. 9.

Spain, which pulled all its soldiers out of Iraq in April, plans to increase its contingent in Afghanistan from about 140 to 1,000 before the vote.

European countries including France, Sweden and the Netherlands are also sending more soldiers, while Canada is slashing its presence after six months in command.

The bulk of the NATO force will remain in Kabul, but contingents are also deploying to northern cities as part of a longer-term plan to stabilize the country.

Some 17,000 U.S.-led troops in Afghanistan are focused on the insurgency-plagued south and east.

Belka said Poland's contribution to Iraq, when it comes to a 17-nation stabilization force, had allowed NATO partners such as Germany to send more forces to Afghanistan.

He said security had improved markedly in Afghanistan, and encouraged Poles to invest.

"This is a country to come to make business, to help it build," he said.

## Shopping for bargains



Photo courtesy of the U.S. Army

Sgt. Simmie Brown of the Headquarters Support Company for the 528th Engineer Battalion, based in Louisiana, pauses to look at some cutlery while searching for a tea set for his wife at the weekly bazaar at Kandahar Airfield in Afghanistan. The bazaar, held every Saturday just inside the outer gate, offers troops deployed to Kandahar a variety of items including DVDs, knives, watches, jewelry, antique firearms and rugs for a fraction of the price they would pay in the United States. It also gives them the opportunity to mix with the Afghans and try their hand at the fine art of negotiating for bargains.

## Ambassadors named

BAGHDAD — Less than a month after regaining sovereignty from the U.S. occupation authority, Iraq on Monday announced the appointment of 43 new ambassadors in its first move to re-engage with the world.

The diplomats are to be sent to a wide range of countries across Europe, Africa and Asia, including most Arab nations, Foreign Minister Hoshiyar Zebari said. He declined to say which ambassadors would be sent to which countries.

## Hungary revisits mission

BUDAPEST, Hungary — Any extension of Hungary's military mission in Iraq will depend on the Iraqi government's ability to stabilize the situation there, the defense minister said Monday.

Ferenc Juhász said his Socialist-led government will review the security situation in Iraq be-

fore deciding whether to ask lawmakers to extend the troops' mandate, which ends on Dec. 31.

Morale in the 380-strong transportation unit was good, Juhász said, adding that the troops had recovered from the shock of Hungary's first military death in Iraq.

## Compensation paid

LONDON — Britain has paid compensation to Iraqis for more than 120 incidents involving death, injury or property damage in the British-occupied south of the country, the government said Monday.

In a House of Commons written answer, Defense Minister Adam Ingram said the compensation cases included one death in detention, six deaths in road accidents and 11 people with injuries sustained during arrest. Twenty-four compensation cases involved property damage and 57 were for damage to vehicles in road accidents.

From wire reports



# SheDAISY honors amputee vets of Iraq war

BY SANDRA JONTZ

Stars and Stripes

ALEXANDRIA, Va. — The show went on — even if the guests of honor weren't there.

At the last moment, 15 soldiers, all amputees wounded in Iraq, didn't get the medical release to attend a benefit concert by country-rock band SheDAISY, held, in part, in their honor.

But the sister trio went on.

Originally a free show for loyal listeners of a Washington, D.C. country station, Sunday's event turned into a concert to honor amputees recuperating at Walter Reed Army Medical Center with a free show and backstage time with SheDAISY's Kelsi, Kassidy and Kristyn Osborn.

Then word came the troops didn't get the medical nod of approval.

"We're really disappointed they're not here. Really disappointed," said Kassidy, 27.

"But we understand," said Kristyn, 33.

A new nonprofit organization, Homes for Our Troops, solicited \$5 donations from the roughly 675 concertgoers. The event raked in more than \$1,500 and several pledges for services, said founder and president John Gonsalves.

Gonsalves is working to develop a nationwide network of skilled pro-

fessionals who can help make it easier for disabled troops to transition to everyday life, such as installing wheelchair ramps and kitchens and bathrooms tailored to fit their new needs, he said.

After hearing a year ago about a soldier critically injured in an rocket-propelled grenade attack, Gonsalves wondered "what, as an American can I do to help. I have 20 years in the construction field, and I knew some would have needs for their houses to be changed."

People can contact Homes for Our Troops by calling 866-7-TROOPS or visiting: [www.homesforourtroops.org](http://www.homesforourtroops.org).

The Army's DS3 program, or Disabled Soldier Support System, worked to arrange backstage passes for the amputees, but had to settle for getting signed photographs of the trio.

In conjunction with the Department of Veterans Affairs, DS3 provides for severely disabled soldiers and their families a system of advocacy and services to transition to civilian life. Troops can ask for help at [www.armyDS3.org](http://www.armyDS3.org), or calling toll-free (800) 833-6622.

"We have a good message [for deployed troops]," Kassidy Osborn said. "We want them to come home soon. I don't know how [they] do it. I'd be chicken. But we're grateful someone is willing to."

E-mail Sandra Jontz at: [jontzs@stripes.osd.mil](mailto:jontzs@stripes.osd.mil)



SANDRA JONTZ/Stars and Stripes

From left, SheDAISY's Kelsi, Kassidy and Kristyn Osborn sign autographs for 15 soldiers wounded in Iraq who were unable to attend the country-rock group's Sunday concert in Alexandria, Va. The soldiers, all amputees, could not get a medical release to attend the concert, hosted by a Washington, D.C., country radio station. Lt. Col. Mike Bills, deputy chief for the Army's Disabled Soldier Support System, got the sister trio to sign photographs for the soldiers, who were recuperating at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington.

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Stars and Stripes reporter Terry Boyd speaks with Servicemembers from Triple Deuce at Firebase Purgatory.

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From left to right, Sgt. Wesley Parkhurst, Spec. Robert Isaacs, Terry Boyd, and Pfc. Michael Greenwood.

# NATO begins exercise in Baltics

BY LIUDAS DAPKUS  
The Associated Press

VILNIUS, Lithuania — Flexing their combined military muscles for the first time since joining NATO, the Baltic states on Monday began hosting a two-week drill to chart how the alliance would provide relief after terrorist attacks or natural disasters.

More than 400 military and civilian officials from 14 countries began the exercise on Monday, which is scheduled to end last through July.

The drill, dubbed "Rescuer/Medecur 2004," was designed to test how well alliance members can integrate their individual medical and rescue resources in the event of a crisis or catastrophe.

It's being held in Lithuania and Estonia, two former Soviet republics — and in Bulgaria on the Black Sea.

"This is the biggest military medical exercise ever held in Lithuania and, as such, is a very good opportunity to coordinate and improve our skills and share the experience with colleagues from other NATO countries," said Lithuanian Army Maj. Vyngintas Stokas, who is coordinating the exercises.

The second week will entail drills, including a mock terror attack and a shipping facility in Lithuania.

The exercises are the biggest of the kind held in Lithuania after the three Baltic states joined NATO in April along with five other former Soviet bloc countries.

Aside from NATO members, including U.S. military forces, Ukraine and Uzbekistan sent observers, NATO said.

## Castle revisited

CATTLE RISING, England — Men and women dressed in uniforms and clothing of the times of the War of the Roses will re-create history this weekend at Castle Rising, England.

The event on Saturday and Sunday will be set against the backdrop of a murder mystery at the castle, and will use authentic weapons from this pivotal era in the history of Great Britain at the village's 12th-century castle.

Castle Rising is about a one-hour drive hour north of RAF Mildenhall and RAF Wakenham, just north of Kings Lynn on A149. The site opens at 10 a.m. The re-enactment begins at 10:30.

Entry is 6 pounds (about \$11) for adults and 3 pounds for children. A family ticket for two parents and two children is 14 pounds.

From staff reports

# Transformation plans still undecided

BY WARD SANDERSON  
Stars and Stripes

Despite media hype over massive military downsizing in Germany and South Korea, the Pentagon says some changes may not happen for years, and presidential candidate John Kerry's campaign says he'll put the kibosh on the moves if elected.

"We don't anticipate any significant large-scale changes being made in the coming months. Any major changes will probably come from 2005 to 2010," a Defense Department spokesman said, speaking on background about current plans.

And according to the Kerry campaign, the candidate opposes withdrawals for now. Instead, Kerry would ask allies to build up their forces and consider moves from Germany and into Eastern Europe only after the infrastructure improves in those countries.

As for South Korea, Kerry would like to pull back from the tense Demilitarized Zone and eventually reunify the Korean, but only sometime in the distant future.

Kerry's national security spokesman, Mark Kitchens, said he would not speculate on timelines or how Kerry's reported calls to pull back from the Demilitarized Zone would affect places such as Germany and South Korea.

"Making statements about that right now would not be a prudent thing to do," Kitchens added. "You never know what the situation will be."

Recent news reports have said the Pentagon plans to reduce by about one-half its 70,000-strong troop strength in Germany. Reported plans are that the United States would withdraw the 1st Armored Division and the 1st Infantry Division, together about 30,000 soldiers, and replace them with a brigade of about 3,500 troops and Stryker light-armored vehicles. The United States has already told South Korea that it plans to pull 12,500 of the 38,000 troops it now maintains there.

For now, however, the staff at the U.S. European Command in Stuttgart, Germany, has no orders to march anyone out.

"The bottom line is, we don't know," said Lt. Col. Rick Haupt, a headquarters spokesman.

The Pentagon is saying that while it wants to move away from



Sen. John Kerry

the heavy armor concept of the Cold War days, it isn't doing so rashly.

"This is still something the president has to decide and approve," said Maj. Paul Swiergosz, spokesman for Douglas Feith, the undersecretary of defense for policy. "Maybe by the tail end of summer or early fall, we may have a better look."

Even under the most accelerated scenario, Germany-based troops now serving in Iraq should return to Europe afterward, not the United States, and those now in Germany shouldn't expect to roll out early.

"If you're halfway through your tour in Germany, this may never affect you," Swiergosz said.

"You may well return to the States before any of the global posture alignment adjusts itself with you."

Swiergosz said whatever the United States does, it would attempt to make the impact on Germany as slight as possible, while still pursuing its goal of lighter, faster forces.

He also rejected the idea that keeping troops in Germany or moving them elsewhere is tied to that government's stance on the decision to invade Iraq.

"The idea that what we're doing now has some sort of political impact on how allies did or did not choose to back us with Iraq is just not right," Swiergosz said. "That's a preposterous sug-

## If elected, Kerry may rethink effort to shift bases into Eastern Europe

gestion, because this preceded 9/11. This preceded Iraq. Whether it would continue despite a change in administrations, I can't begin to speculate."

En route to the NATO summit last month in Istanbul, Gen. James L. Jones, commander of NATO and U.S. forces in Europe, was noncommittal. He said the presidential election may affect the outcome, but that the Pentagon's current plans have a life of their own.

"Conceptually, if you had a big change of government, you could have a radical change of direction," Jones said. "But I think its momentum is fairly constant."

Jones also said he was unsure if recent increases in the number of peacekeepers that allies, including Germany, approved for Afghanistan would affect any decisions to move.

"I think whatever NATO does in Afghanistan will be something helpful for the coalition. I don't know if it will affect transformation," Jones said. "There's no question that the more NATO does in Afghanistan of a burden it is on us nationally."

Whatever happens, a shift of forces out of Germany doesn't mean stations of "new Europe" will receive wheelbarrows of American greenbacks. "We're not talking about any new Ramsteins being built," Swiergosz said, referencing the largest U.S. base in Germany. "That's flat-out not gonna happen."

Under the administration's current philosophy, large bases will give way to smaller hubs to allow forces to hop across the continent — and likely onto hot spots like the Middle East, Central Asia or Africa. The large divisions would move back to the United States, not another allied nation.

That means new bases in Europe wouldn't necessarily house large numbers of soldiers — or that moving troops out of Germany would mean other Europeans would host them afterward.

"It doesn't mean one country's a winner and the other's a loser," Swiergosz said.

Though the debate has come to a head in the wake of the decision to depose Saddam Hussein, the



Gen. James Jones

idea of shedding pounds and personnel to fight light goes back at least 25 years, according to one expert.

"When you're facing a predictable heavy armored enemy like the Warsaw Pact, the guys who wanted the big heavy tanks tended to win those arguments," said Ivan Oelrich, director of the Federation of American Scientists' Strategic Security Project. "But it doesn't mean there wasn't some alternative voice there."

Oelrich said he doesn't believe the Pentagon's current plans are simply political, but said there are both reasons to stay in a place such as Germany (the United States already has bases there) and to move (it'll eventually be cheaper, and the Soviet Union is no more).

"Sometimes the rational thing is to stick with an investment," Oelrich said. "But having said that, we're not defending the Fulda Gap ... it makes sense to move forces around."

Still, it's best not to count Germany out. Swiergosz said the United States continues to meet with Germany over the future of bases there. And he said America accepts its commitments to its allies.

"We're not going to abandon them."

E-mail Ward Sanderson at: sandersonw@mail.eastripes.osd.mil

## Fort Hood readies troops for urban combat in Iraq

The Associated Press

FORT HOOD, Texas — Roadside bombs, sniper gunfire and angry crowds are part of the training these days at the military's largest and reservists from Louisiana, Manhattan and elsewhere have to learn what to expect in Iraq.

Gummers are taught during summer training at Fort Hood to watch around every corner for so-called "improvised explosive devices" whose booby trap meets bomb and sniper insurgents firing whatever weapon is available.

A mock ambush of a convoy in an Iraqi village and other drills in soldier school are

based on occurrences that inexperienced troops could soon face in the Middle East. One officer preparing for his first deployment to Iraq emerged from the convoy drill with an appreciation of the dangers.

"It's about as real as you can get without having two-way live fire," 2nd Lt. Dan Hoyer of the New York National Guard said. "It provides good challenges for the leadership and for all the troops on the ground to apply what they've learned in class and put it out on the street level."

"I have high standards and high expectations. I understand they're going to fail, they're going to stumble," he told the Houston Chronicle in Monday's online edition. "But you get back up and you try it again."

Federal contract workers were role-playing as a mob led by a Muslim cleric confronted the convoy on a rubble-strewn street just before another bomb explosion and more sniper fire.

The troops were members of the 256th Brigade Combat Team from the Louisiana National Guard, which is preparing to deploy to Iraq.

Their teachers were members of the Texas National Guard's 75th Division (Training Support) based in Houston, whose citizen-soldiers have assumed a key role in mentoring about 4,000 guard members heading to Iraq.

"This is important work for our nation," Brig. Gen. Walt Zink of Houston, the division's assistant commander, said.

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# German lemon law sweetens car purchases

## Knowing the rules before buying helps

By LISA HORN  
Stars and Stripes

Americans in the market for a used car in Germany may not be aware of a one-year warranty guaranteed to them by law.

If Lewis Pullum had asked about the warranty, he may have been able to save himself a few headaches and a few dollars.

Pullum, an industrial equipment repairman at Rhein-Main Air Base, learned about the law the hard way. When Pullum purchased his 1993 BMW 540i from a car dealer outside of Mannheim's Sullivan Barracks in April, the dealer offered only a 30-day warranty.

A car hobbyist, Pullum test-drove the car, which he said appeared to be in good condition.

"The car looked great, drove great," he said. "It wasn't a dream car, but a car that I was looking for." A week later, however, Pullum noticed the car "just did not feel right."

His fears were confirmed when he had his regular mechanic evaluate the car. The list of repairs, which included new brake pads, rotors and a water pump, totaled 2,300 euros. Pullum paid 5,000 euros, or about \$6,240, for the car.

"I hadn't driven this car a week and was now faced with all these problems," Pullum said. "I don't

### The German lemon law

The basics of the *Bürgerliches Gesetzbuch*, para. 434ss (German lemon law):

■ By law, German dealerships must honor a one-year warranty for all used cars they sell.

■ The dealer is responsible for defects determined (usually by a third party appraisal) to have been there at the time of sale; not resulting from regular wear and tear or negligence. For example, worn brake pads.

■ The buyer must file a claim with the dealer before the one-year term has expired.

■ The bylaws of this consumer directive, which other countries in the European Union have also adopted, also apply to other property, such as mobile homes, computers and other immovables.

feel like I should drive the car, knowing that it has these problems."

To make matters worse, the dealership refused to honor the 30-day guarantee and denied any responsibility in having to honor the one-year warranty, Pullum said.

Repeated calls to the car dealer for this article were not returned.

In January 2002, under a European Union directive on consumer protection, Germany changed its laws on tangible property sales to better protect the consumer. All German dealerships must provide a 12-month warranty for every used car they sell.

Ensuring that a dealership provides this warranty will save the buyer a lot of headache and legal hassles if a dream BMW or Mercedes turns out to be a lemon, said German lawyer Roland Schwengebecher, who is representing Pullum in his dispute with the car dealer.

Under the old law, the buyer had to prove that the car's damage was there before the vehicle

was taken off the lot. Now, the buyer does not have to prove the damage, but must claim damage within the 12-month timeframe.

"When you buy a car from a dealer, your position as the consumer is much better than it was two years ago," said Schwengebecher, whose office is in Dietzenbach.

The German lemon law, *Bürgerliches Gesetzbuch*, para. 434ss, states that if a used car bought from a dealership is defective, the dealer must take the car back or pay for repairs. The law does not apply to private sellers.

Getting your money back, however, isn't as easy as returning the car back to the lot. The defects must be determined to have been present at the time of sale and not resulting from wear and tear, said Kerstin Bartnik, German legal assistance lawyer in Darmstadt and Hanau.

It's a slippery slope, she said. An expert appraisal — paid by the buyer — can often be the only way to determine if a car is defective or has resulted from wear



LISA HORN/Stars and Stripes

**Lewis Pullum hasn't spent much time behind the wheel of his 1993 BMW since he bought it in April. The car started showing signs of major mechanical problems a week after he bought it. He is battling with a dealership in Mannheim to honor the one-year German legal warranty to fix the car.**

and tear, she said.

Then, the dealer may dispute the appraisal and the case ends up in court, which is where Pullum's dispute is now.

Three months after driving it off the lot, Pullum's silver BMW sits at the mechanic's shop, await-

ing the results of the legal case.

"In my opinion, a lot of Americans buy used cars from military sales and the dealers haven't got any idea of German law," Schwengebecher said.

E-mail Lisa Horn at: [hornl@mail.strips.osd.mil](mailto:hornl@mail.strips.osd.mil)

## Medical command greets new leader

By JESSICA INIGO  
Stars and Stripes

Col. Carla G. Hawley-Bowland took command of the Army's Europe Regional Medical Command during a ceremony Thursday at Nachrichten Kaserne in Heidelberg, Germany.

Hawley-Bowland, who becomes command surgeon for U.S. Army Europe and 7th Army, took the reins from Brig. Gen. Elder Granger.

Granger is moving to Fort Bragg, N.C., to become commander of the 44th Medical Command.

ERMCM is a major subordinate command of the U.S. Army Medical Command, headquartered at Fort Sam Houston, Texas. It is responsible for the operation of medical treatment facilities in Germany, Bel-

gium and Italy.

Hawley-Bowland's previous assignment was as MEDCOM deputy director for Health Policy and Services, chief consultant for MEDCOM and chief of the Clinical Services Division in San Antonio.

She expressed excitement at being in Europe and thanked Granger for mentoring her with a "dynamic, growing organization."

Addressing members of the command for the first time, she said, "As the Army continues to transform to meet the requirements for an ever-changing world situation, we will face many transitions and challenges."

"As we traverse this winding trail, we must care for ourselves and for each other to be ready for the road ahead. Hopefully, we will find some fun along the way to lighten our load. Together with flexibility and accountability, we will face and conquer the demanding tasks ahead, always doing the right thing for soldiers."

During his parting remarks,



Hawley-Bowland

Granger described this day as bittersweet.

"This is a very difficult moment for me," he said. "My service as a commander, the command surgeon and as the Tricare Europe lead agent has been among the most personally and professionally rewarding experiences of my life."

Granger told the crowd that he took pride in this command and in serving the European community.

"This great command team has a reputation of never giving up, getting the soldier and for always doing routine things routinely well."

E-mail Jessica Inigo at: [inigoj@mail.strips.osd.mil](mailto:inigoj@mail.strips.osd.mil)

## Vilseck GI found guilty of attacks, indecent acts

By JESSICA INIGO  
Stars and Stripes

DARMSTADT, Germany — A DARMSTADT-based soldier will spend the next five years in jail for two unrelated violent attacks after returning from downrange, and for indecent acts committed while deployed.

Spc. Maurice E. Shumpert II, pleaded guilty to one charge of aggravated assault and was found guilty of a second. He was convicted of indecent language and indecent exposure while deployed to Iraq with Headquarters Support Company, 94th Engineer Battalion.

In addition to jail time, he was reduced to the lowest enlisted grade, ordered to forfeit all pay and allowances, and given a bad-conduct discharge at the end of the two-day court-martial in Vilseck that ended Friday.

Shumpert pleaded guilty to punching another soldier in the face at a local bar on Jan. 16, the day he returned from Iraq.

Shumpert said the second charge, which took place his second weekend home while at a club in Erlangen, Germany, resulted from an incident in which

he was acting in self-defense. However, a jury panel found Shumpert guilty of breaking a glass on a former soldier's head with intent to do bodily harm.

Capt. Jennifer Bottoms, trial counsel for the Vilseck legal office, said the man was so badly injured that German medical personnel said he would have died without medical aid and he nearly became paralyzed because of the deep cuts. The man has permanent scars on his face.

The indecent language and indecent exposure charge was tacked on to the aggravated assault court-martial once the company commander found out a female soldier came forward with a sexual-assault incident while deployed with Shumpert.

In late summer 2003, a female soldier reported she was on guard duty when Shumpert propositioned her to have sex. When she refused, he called her a name and exposed himself.

Shumpert is being held at the Mannheim Confinement Facility, but will be moved next week to a stateside facility to complete his five-year sentence.

E-mail Jessica Inigo at: [inigoj@mail.strips.osd.mil](mailto:inigoj@mail.strips.osd.mil)



## IN THE STATES

## U.S. exploring whether Iran had role in 9/11 attacks

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Bush said Monday the United States is exploring whether Iran had any role in the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, a scenario the CIA has found no evidence to support.

"We will continue to look and see if the Iranians were involved," Bush said. "I have long expressed my concerns about Iran. After all it's a totalitarian society where people are not allowed to exercise their rights as human beings."

"As to direct connections with Sept. 11, we're digging into the facts to determine if there was one," said the president, who has branded Iran as part of an "axis of evil" along with North Korea and prewar Iraq under Saddam Hussein's leadership.

Bush accused Iran of harboring al-Qaida leadership, seeking a nuclear weapons program and financing terrorist organizations such as Hezbollah. Acting CIA Director John McLaughlin said on Sunday that the CIA has known for some time that some of the Sept. 11 hijackers were able to pass through Iran.

But he said there is no evidence the government in Tehran supported this. Nothing suggests an official connection between Iran and the 2001 hijackings, he said.

## California wildfire



THE LOS ANGELES TIMES/AP

A wildfire jumps Placerita Canyon Road for the second time Sunday, while fire crews watch near Santa Clarita, Calif. Dry, windy weather on Monday hampered efforts to contain the fire that has forced thousands of people to flee their homes. There were no immediate reports of injuries or structural damage.

## Nations urge end to juvenile executions

BY ANNE GEARAN

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Jimmy Carter, Mikhail Gorbachev, the American Medical Association and 48 nations are among those who lobbied the Supreme Court Monday to end the execution of killers who committed their crimes before age 18.

The United States is among a handful of nations that allow the practice. The high court will reconsider this fall whether such executions are constitutional.

The 25-nation European Union, plus Mexico, Canada and other nations argued that execution of juvenile killers "violates widely accepted human rights norms and the minimum standards of human rights set forth by the United Nations."

Mexico noted separately that three of the 73 current death row inmates condemned for killings that took place before they were 18 are Mexican nationals.

The American Medical Association, American Psychiatric Association and other medical and

mental health groups also told the court they oppose execution of teen killers, as did the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Diplomats including former undersecretary of state Thomas Pickering and former ambassador to France Felix Rohatyn argued that growing international consensus against such executions leaves the U.S. diplomatically isolated.

Two friend-of-the-court briefs filed earlier support continuation of the practice.

"(Our) experience strongly indicates that a bright-line rule categorically exempting 16- and 17-year-olds from the death penalty... would be arbitrary at best and downright perverse at worst," lawyers for Alabama, Delaware, Oklahoma, Texas, Utah and Virginia told the court.

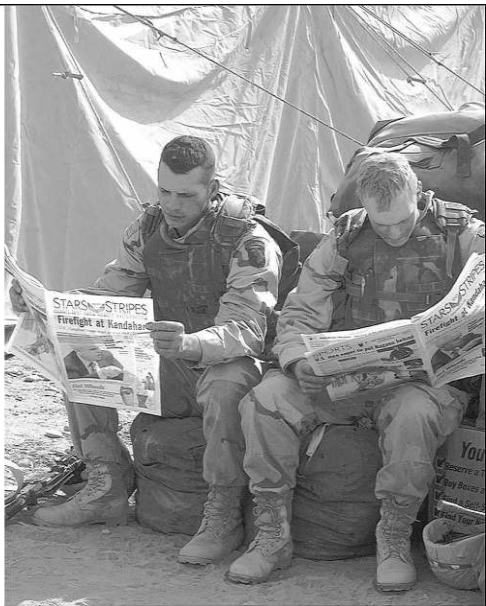
Those states are among 19 that allow execution of killers who were 16 or 17 at the time of the crime. Not all states that allow the death penalty apply it to underage killers, and no state allows the execution of those who were younger than 16 at the time of the crime.

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# W.Va. senator thinks Kerry could win state

## Byrd says Democratic presidential candidate needs to 'get a little coal dust on his hands'

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — John Kerry can win West Virginia's five electoral votes by going there and getting coal "dust on his hands and on his face," the state's senior senator said Sunday.

Also, said Sen. Robert Byrd, history's second longest-serving senator behind the late Strom Thurmond of South Carolina, "Always, always remember that sovereignty rests, John Kerry, sovereignty rests with the people of this country."

Appearing on NBC's "Meet the Press," Byrd was asked whether



Byrd

know a lot about coal," said the 86-year-old Byrd, whose Senate career began in 1959, the year be-

fore John F. Kennedy's evocation of the plight of the West Virginia coal miner helped him win the presidency.

"Yes, coal is a dirty energy source, but look what we're trying to do. We're trying to clean it up. I've appropriated money over the years for coal research to make it cleaner," Byrd said.

"Yes, he can carry West Virginia. He will carry West Virginia if he continues to stand up for the liberties of the people," Byrd said.

"I've talked with him. I've told him he should go to West Vir-

ginia. He should shake hands with the people. He should be at their level and get a little coal dust on his hands.

Get some of that dirt dust on his hands and on his face and live in spirit with the working people of this country, the coal miners. And always, always remember that sovereignty rests,



Kerry

John Kerry, sovereignty rests with the people of this country."

The Kerry campaign reaffirmed the candidate's commitment to the state's miners and pointed out that he has proposed spending \$10 billion to improve clean coal technology.

"John Kerry saw firsthand the work of the miners of West Virginia when he went down in a mine in the spring, and he received the endorsement of Cecil Roberts and the UMW (United Mine Workers). His commitment to these workers is personal," said campaign spokesman David Wade.



Protest Warrior members meet in New York July 12 in New York. The conservative political demonstration group plans to face off with demonstrators who will gather in New York to protest the convention.

## Conservatives to protest protesters at convention

BY SARA KUGLER

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Activists planning to demonstrate against the upcoming GOP convention should be on the lookout for young conservatives gearing up to protest the protesters.

"To show that there is a group of people out there, there are Republicans that will protest them right back," said Tom Paladino, who leads the New York chapter of the newly formed Protest Warriors.

"We are the right-wing freedom fighters — we are out there and are just as animated as the protesters can be," said member Jason Sager, of Brooklyn.

Protest Warriors, which claims about 3,000 members nationwide, expects about 200 in New York for the four-day convention, which begins Aug. 30 and is expected to draw tens of thousands of opponents of President Bush.

Leaders say they know their won't have equal representation, but hope the contrast helps them stand out. They will be armed with their own picket signs and T-shirts, even video cameras to capture their mission.

"It's going to be the protest Olympics. They're all going to be trying to outdo each other," said Kfir Alfia, of Austin, Texas, who formed the group last year with Alan Lipton after they crashed anti-war demonstrations in San Francisco, carrying signs that said "Except for Ending Slavery, Fascism, Nazism and Communism, War Has Never Solved Anything."

Activists hurled signs at them and hissed "Fascists!" as they marched along, Alfia and Lipton said. They said they were surprised to encounter animosity at a peace rally, and decided to publicize their experience.

They posted videos of their counterprotests on the Internet and began coordinating more actions. The movement attracted young conservatives from across the country, as well as stalwarts like Rush Limbaugh, who has hosted them.

This spring, the group protested anti-war rallies in several cities, including New York.

For now, Protest Warriors' convention plans are unclear because they depend on the anti-Bush groups. Some of those groups are still awaiting police permits for their demonstrations.

## Asians in U.S. lack political clout

### Activists hope voter education, registration will boost numbers, voice

BY GENARO C. ARMAS

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Asian Americans are the country's second fastest-growing minority behind Hispanics. But unlike Latinos, they have virtually no national political clout.

Eager to change that, activists and political leaders are relying on tried-and-true methods such as voter registration drives and educational efforts to get more voters to the polls.

Yet when it comes to courting Asian voters, political parties appear to be more influenced by one simple math, courtesy of the Census Bureau.

■ There were more than 9 million Asians in the United States of voting age in July 2003, up 1 million from three years earlier.

■ Among minorities though, Asians lag behind the 26.3 million Hispanics and 25.7 million blacks of voting age.

■ People of Asian-Pacific Islander background comprised just 2 percent of voters in the 2000 election, compared with 10 percent for blacks and 5 percent for Hispanics.

■ Nationally, Asians represent just 4 percent of the U.S. population, and there is a large immigrant segment in the United States who aren't citizens and therefore can't vote.

"Asian votes should be courted, not taken for granted," pleads Cao K. O., executive director of the Asian American Federation in New York.

David Lee of the Chinese American Voters Education Committee in San Francisco calls it a cycle that "feeds into itself." Parties historically haven't sought Asians' vote and spend little money to get them registered.

Census data shows that the Asian population rose 12.6 percent between 2000 and 2003, behind only the 13 percent increase among Latinos. Hispanics tend to lean Democratic though, their votes are increasingly being targeted by Republicans.

But deciphering how Asians vote can be tricky given the lack of detailed study in the area, says political scientist Paul Watanabe

at the University of Massachusetts. Exit polling in 2000 found 55 percent of Asians backing Democrat Al Gore and 44 percent for President Bush. Watanabe cautions against reading too much into such figures because data on Asians are often based on interviews with a small number of voters.

Drawing on rough estimates, Lee, O and others say there appear to be a roughly equal number of Asians registered as Democrat or Republican, plus a large contingent of independents. In theory, that means Asians could be pivotal in deciding a tight presidential campaign.

Yet another factor that may be affecting the influence of Asians is that the states in which they constitute the largest shares of the population, such as Hawaii, California and New York, aren't considered toss-ups for the election.

Of those states generally considered battlegrounds, Oregon, Nevada and Washington have the largest Asian population, though they still make up no more than 6 per-

cent of the state's total population in each case.

Efforts can also be stunted by the large number of different languages among those Asian who speak something other than English, that makes it more money pay for education efforts or registration drives because ads and materials have to be printed in many languages.

S.B. Woo, a former Democratic lieutenant governor of Delaware, heads a group called the "80-20 Initiative" that hopes to garner 80 percent of the Asian vote nationally this fall behind one presidential candidate, regardless of the party.

Woo says that would transform Asians into a critical national voting bloc.

Watanabe is critical of the strategy. Efforts should "principally be concentrated at the local level than attempting to influence politics at the presidential level, where Asian Americans because of their numbers have the least decisive impact."

Counters Woo, who is now an independent. "You play the hand you are dealt with."

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# Studies suggest diet, weight affect brain health

BY MALCOLM RITTER

The Associated Press

Eating vegetables such as broccoli and spinach may help older women retain some memory abilities later on, while avoiding obesity in middle age lowers the risk of later Alzheimer's disease in both sexes, new studies suggest.

The work mirrors prior evidence that people may help keep their brains healthy by following standard health advice, including things such as staying active and keeping cholesterol, blood sugar and blood pressure under control.

In fact, one of the new studies found evidence that obesity, high cholesterol and high blood pressure in middle age each added substantially to the risk of developing Alzheimer's or other dementia later on. Each problem roughly doubled the risk, and study participants with all three traits ran six times the risk of somebody without any of them, said researcher Dr. Mila Kivipelto of the Karolinska Institute in Stockholm.

Kivipelto said the findings are encouraging because they suggest that lifestyle changes can help many people reduce their risk of dementia. She spoke in a telephone interview before presenting the work Monday in Philadelphia at the Ninth International Conference on Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders.

Her study included 1,449 Finns whose body-mass index, which signals obesity, was calculated when they were around 50 years old.

When examined an average of 21 years later, 61 had developed dementia, mostly Alzheimer's. Results showed the risk of any dementia or Alzheimer's in particular roughly doubled with a BMI of more than 30 (considered obese), cholesterol of more than 250 or a blood pressure reading in which one of the numbers exceeded 140.

The effect appeared in both sexes, though the obesity factor was slightly stronger in women, Kivipelto said.

The findings make sense, said Deborah Gustafson of the Medical College of Wisconsin. Gustafson had reported evidence that women who are overweight in their 70s had an increased risk of getting Alzheimer's, while the new work extends the finding back into middle age, she noted.

The other new study found that women in their 60s who habitually ate more cruciferous and green leafy vegetables than other women went on to show less overall decline on a bundle of tests measuring memory, verbal ability and attention when they were in their 70s.

Such foods include broccoli, cauliflower, romaine lettuce and spinach.

The federally funded study didn't include men, but the effect would probably appear in them too, said Ja Hee Kang, an instructor at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston who presented the work. She stressed that the findings need to be confirmed by further studies.

Researchers focused on drop-offs in abilities such as remembering word lists after

15 minutes, naming as many animals as possible in one minute, and reciting a list of numbers backward. A pronounced decline may foreshadow Alzheimer's.

Kang and colleagues studied 13,388 nurses participating in a long-running health study. They compared the participants' questionnaires on long-term eating habits over a span of 10 years, when they were in their 60s, to their performance in two test sessions when they were in their 70s. Researchers noted how much the scores declined in the two years between sessions.

While most women in the study showed some decline, those who had habitually eaten the most cruciferous and green leafy vegetables showed less decline than those who ate the least, Kang said.

"It was almost like they were younger by one or two years in terms of their cognitive decline," Kang said in a telephone interview.

The effect of the vegetables probably comes from the antioxidants and B vitamins they contain, Kang said.

## Quadriplegic killed

SAN ANTONIO — One man is in custody and two others are being sought Monday in the beeping death of a quadriplegic man inside a housing complex near the former Kelly Air Force Base. Three men and a woman also were hurt in the attack.

The 47-year-old quadriplegic's body was found Saturday morning on a bed in his ranch-style apartment, with a pillow over his battered face. The victim, whom EMS technicians said had died from serious head trauma resulting from the beating, was not identified pending notification of relatives.

Larry Salazar, 26, was arrested on a warrant Saturday by the police department's gang unit.

## Taser safety questioned

PHOENIX — Medical examiners have found that Taser electric stun guns may have played a role in at least five deaths, contradicting the manufacturer's claim that the weapons never killed or injured anyone, a newspaper reported Sunday.

Medical examiners in three cases involving suspects who died in police custody cited Tasers as a cause or a contributing factor in the deaths. The Arizona Republic reported. In two other cases, Tasers could not be ruled out as a cause of death.

Taser International has defended its product, which thousands of law enforcement agencies have issued to their officers to help subdue people who refuse to obey commands.

## Safari winners

SEADRIFT, Texas — A six-man canoe team paddled down 240 grueling river miles faster than more than 120 competitors to win the annual Texas Water Safari on Sunday.

The canoe, crossed the finish line in 33 hours and eight minutes, the third-fastest time since the first competition in 1963.

The race course, from San Marcos to Seadrift on San Antonio Bay via the San Marcos and Guadalupe rivers, is filled with hazards including logjams, alligators and water moccasins.

From The Associated Press

# More amusement, less waiting

## Parks using beepers, hand stamps to cut down lines for rides

BY JOHN SEEWER

The Associated Press

SANDUSKY, Ohio — Long, dreary and crowded waits can take the wind out of even the most eager thrill seeker.

So to keep guests happy, amusement parks these days use beepers, special tickets and hand stamps to encourage people to cut the line.

Front of the line privileges for popular rides cut extra at some parks and are free at others. Parks benefit because less time standing means visitors can spend money in shops and restaurants instead.

"No matter where you are, people are generally impatient," said Chris Knauf, assistant manager of ride operations at Cedar Point amusement park, which gives out hand stamps that allow visitors to skip ahead later.

The trend began five years ago with the FastPass reservation system at Walt Disney World's Animal Kingdom, and has trickled down to regional theme parks. Long waits had topped the list of complaints, said parks spokesman Dave Herbst.

So the park came up with a solution. Visitors can avoid standing in packed queues for the top 26 attractions, including The Twilight Zone Tower of Terror and Space Mountain.

Guest surveys show that those who use FastPass, which tells guests when to show up for the ride, have a better experience and are able to see 25 percent more attractions and shows.

"We're hitting at the one thing they dislike," said Todd Evans, manager for attractions at the Florida parks.

While the Disney system is free, Six Flags parks charge a fee for getting to the front.

Six Flags, with 28 theme and water parks nationwide, sells



Cedar Point employee Tommy Wobser II stamps a guest's hand July 9 outside of the Wicked Twister ride. The stamp is part of the Sandusky, Ohio, amusement park's FreeWay program, which lets a limited number of guests bypass the long lines for popular rides.

front of the line tickets at most of its parks. Five parks rent an electronic device that works like a pager.

The costs vary at each park. At Six Flags Over Texas, the Six Flags Over Georgia it costs \$10 to rent the device and another \$10 for each person using it.

Guests insert the palm-sized device at a sign near the ride and reserve their time to come back and get on a roller coaster with little or no wait. The device, called a

Q-Bot, vibrates and beeps when it's time to ride.

Not everyone thinks it's fair for some guests to buy their way to the front.

Sean Flaherty, a roller coaster enthusiast from Columbus, said the system can produce longer lines. Some parks reserve coaster seats for people who have front of the line passes, and those seats sometimes go unfilled.

"I can see why people get angry because that makes the line actually go slower," said Flaherty.

## Messages of Support

★ Can you please get this message to my boyfriend E. Dowdell from North Carolina tell him that I miss him alot and that myself and his children are waiting for him no matter what happens we will still be here . But please come home soon and safe I love him and I can't wait for him to become my husband.

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## IN THE WORLD

# Wounded as Israel strikes at Gaza militants

## Arafat replaces cousin appointed to security post

BY MARK LAVIE  
The Associated Press

**JERUSALEM** — Israeli missiles hit a Gaza militants' safe house on Monday, wounding three, a spokesman for a Palestinian group said, the first Israeli airstrike there since internal turmoil broke out over the weekend.

In a related development, Israel's moderate Labor Party demanded legislation to back up Prime Minister Ariel Sharon's Gaza pullout plan as part of its price for shoring up his shaky government.

In Gaza City, a spokesman for the Popular Resistance Committee said the Monday afternoon airstrike was aimed at a house used by Abed Quika, the group's leader in northern Gaza. He was wounded in the attack.

White smoke rose into the sky from the building, and a large crowd quickly gathered around the house at the Shati refugee camp on the beach next to Gaza City.

In other violence Monday, Israeli soldiers shot and killed a 17-year-old Palestinian in a refugee camp next to the West Bank city of Nabulus at nightfall. Palestinian said he was throwing rocks at soldiers. The Israeli military said he was holding a rifle.

The Popular Resistance Committee is an umbrella group of militants who left other Palestinian factions. Its militants do not answer to outside authorities and often carry out attacks against their wishes. Some believe the group was responsible for killing of three American security guards in a diplomatic convoy in the northern Gaza Strip last October. No arrests have been made in the bombing, and the U.S. government has expressed dissatisfaction with the Palestinian investigation.

The airstrike came as Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat moved to defuse three days of tension and violence over his appointment of a relative, Moussa Arafat, as head of security in Gaza.

On Monday, Arafat reinstated the officer his relative replaced — Abdel Razek Majade — but retained Moussa Arafat in a powerful position, satisfying some of his critics but infuriating others.

Palestinian Prime Minister Ahmed Qureia said Monday he is intent on resigning but made no move to leave office. He told reporters that in a phone call to Arafat, he said, "It is time to reactivate all our security branches based on the correct principles. It is now time to appoint the right man to the right position."

Tension in Gaza has also been heightened by Sharon's plan to pull Israeli forces and settlers out of the seaside territory by the end of next year — a "unilateral disengagement" plan that has rival Palestinian groups jockeying for position.



**Lt. Gen. Abdel Razek Majade, the reinstated director of General Security for the West Bank and Gaza Strip, flashes a victory sign outside the security office in Gaza city on Monday.**

## Inquiry launched into how security plans for London airport were lost on roadside

BY MICHAEL McDONOUGH  
The Associated Press

**LONDON** — A police inquiry has been launched in response to a newspaper report saying a dossier containing anti-terror plans for Heathrow airport was found lying on a roadside, police said Monday.

Home Secretary David Blunkett, Britain's top law enforcement official, said he believed the documents were genuine.

"The plans were obviously very good," he told British Broadcasting Corp. radio. "Somebody disposing of them in a way that allowed that to happen is very bad."

London's Metropolitan Police refused to give details of the nature of the documents, but said they had been recovered by officers.

"We treat any breach of security extremely seriously," a spokesman said on condition of anonymity.

"We've launched an internal inquiry into the circumstances of how these documents went missing, and we will take the appropriate action when we have ascertained the facts surrounding this matter."

The spokesman was responding to a report in The Sun claiming that a motorist found the documents by the side of a road a few hundred yards from Heathrow's Terminal 4.

The newspaper said the plans, dated June 26, 2004, showed 62 sites at Heathrow where terrorists were most likely to launch anti-aircraft missile strikes. They included facts about escape routes, evacuation plans and road closures, according to The Sun.

The plans, handed to The Sun by the motorist, were drawn up by the Metropolitan Police's S018 Aviation Security Team, the paper reported. It ran pictures of the front cover of one of the documents bearing the police force's emblem and marked "Confidential."

The dossier reportedly identifies a field close to Heathrow as being ideal for launching a rocket strike. "The site affords an excellent site to attack aircraft departing Heathrow," The Sun quoted the documents as saying. "The firing point is just over the fence into the field. This is a very large site with little cover."

## Sharon's call to French Jews to move to Israel met with outcry

BY JOCELYN GECKER  
The Associated Press

**PARIS** — An appeal by Israel's leader for Jews in France to flee for their safety was met with an outcry in France on Monday, with lawmakers and Jewish groups urging Ariel Sharon to mind his own business.

The president of France's National Assembly, the lower house of parliament, said Sharon "missed a good opportunity to keep quiet."

"These words are inadmissible, unacceptable and, furthermore, irresponsible," Jean-Louis Debré told Europe-1 radio, adding to a chorus of comments in Paris from the government and opposition groups.

Sharon on Sunday urged France's Jews to move to Israel to escape a tide of anti-Semitism at home.

"If I have to advocate to our brothers in France, I will tell them one thing," Sharon told American Jewish leaders in Jerusalem.

"Move to Israel, as early as possible."

Israel's government spokesman sought Monday to tone down the remarks, saying Sharon only meant to let French Jews know they were welcome in Israel.

"Sharon was misunderstood," spokesman Avi Pazner told Europe-1 radio, adding the prime minister said "he considered that French Jews, like all Jews in the world, belong in Israel — and he invited French Jews to come."

Pazner stressed that Sharon had spoken off the cuff in response to a question. "Anti-Semitic acts against Jewish schools, synagogues and cemeteries have risen in France in recent years, coinciding with tensions in the Middle East. Many attacks have been blamed on young Muslims."

The latest French Interior Ministry figures show 510 anti-Jewish acts or threats in the first six months of 2004 — compared to 593 for all of last year.

## EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates	
Euro	\$1.2799
British pound	\$1.92
Japanese yen (July 21)	107.00
S. Korean won (July 20)	1,131.00
Commercial rates	
Bahrain (Dinar)	0.3770
British pound	\$1.9209
Canada (Dollar)	0.6109
Denmark (Krone)	5.9919
Egypt (Pound)	6.1900
Euro	\$1.2898
Hong Kong (Dollar)	0.796
Hungary (Forint)	200.80
India (Rupee)	44.924
Israel (Shekel)	1.4924
Japan (Yen)	107.00
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.2947
Norway (Krone)	6.926
Philippines (Peso)	55.91
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.7561
Singapore (Dollar)	1.7008
S. Korea (Won)	1,155.00
Switzerland (Franc)	1.278
Thailand (Baht)	48.50
Taiwan (Dollar)	1,435.71
U.S. dollar	\$1.00

(Military exchange rates are those available to customers at military banking facilities in the country of issuance for non-U.S. forces. Commercial rates are for non-U.S. citizens in the United Kingdom. For non-currency exchange rates (i.e., purchasing British pounds in Germany), rates with your local currency exchange facility. Commercial rates are interbank rates provided for reference when buying currency. All figures are foreign bank rates as of one dollar, except for the British pound, which is represented in dollars-to-pound, and the euro, which is dollars-to-euro.)

## PRECIOUS METALS

London close	
Gold	\$404.40
Silver	\$6.60

## INTEREST RATES

Discount rate	
Prime rate	4.25
Three-month bank rate	2.25
Three-month bill	1.25
Three-month T-bill	1.25
Three-month Euro	1.25
Three-month Yen	1.25

Sources: The Associated Press, Bank of America, Bloomberg.com

## Cents and Sensibility

### Money tip of the day

## Changes to overtime laws

CBS MarketWatch

**SAN FRANCISCO** — Six million people will lose their right to be paid overtime under new federal regulations slated to go into effect in August, according to a new report by a liberal research group.

Nearly 2 million workers who are "team leaders" will be ineligible for overtime pay under the new rules, along with about 920,000 workers without college

degrees who will be reclassified as "learned professionals," according to the Economic Policy Institute report.

Among the 3 million additional workers who will become ineligible are some who earn more than \$100,000 a year, as well as some teachers, computer programmers and supervisors, the report contends.

While workers in any industry might see changes, retail and office workers will feel the brunt of the new rules.

## Italian official resigns

**ROME** — Ailing Reforms Minister Umberto Bossi resigned from Premier Silvio Berlusconi's government Monday, the latest shake-up in Italy's squabbling conservative government.

President Carlo Azeglio Ciampi accepted Bossi's resignation, which was submitted on Sunday, the presidential palace said. But other ministers in Bossi's Northern League party agreed to remain, averting any immediate danger of the government's collapse.

Boss, a volatile politician who brought down Berlusconi's first government in 1994, also quit his post in the Chamber of Deputies, joining several other politicians in urging Italian legislators to take up seats in the European Parliament.

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# Whaling meeting begins

## Japan accused of buying votes to lift ban at Italy talks

BY TRISHA THOMAS  
The Associated Press

SORRENTO, Italy — Delegates from the International Whaling Commission began annual talks Monday in what is expected to be a fractious meeting, amid allegations that Japan is buying votes to rally support in its bid to overturn a 1986 ban on commercial whaling.

The meeting in this sea resort in southern Italy gathers hundreds of delegates from the 57 member countries as well as environmentalist groups such as the Worldwide Fund for Nature. It runs through Thursday.

Lifting the ban on commercial whaling has been the main focus of recent IWC meetings.

Japan, the world's prime consumer of whale meat, leads a group of pro-whaling countries that also includes Norway and Iceland.

This year, Tokyo said it might consider pulling out of the commission if the ban is not overturned.

The WWF and other environmentalist groups say Japan is misusing development aid to manipulate the vote of developing countries. The WWF says that the technique is already paying off and as a result the pro-whaling bloc has grown steadily — from nine countries in 2000 to 21 in 2003. This year it is forecast to reach 27 countries.

"This is a clear case of money talks and it's happening in front of us," said John Frizzell of Greenpeace International. "It is time we put a stop to this ongoing vote buying, before it's too late."

Responding to the accusations, Japan said in a statement that it has fisheries relationships with many nations. "When we have a chance to discuss the IWC situation with those nations, they are often more prepared to understand our position," a delegation statement said.

With a three-fourths majority required to overturn the moratorium, many expect the ban will stay in place.

"We are close to the simple majority, but three quarters is difficult" to obtain, Joji Morishita, a Japanese delegate, said in an interview.

The High North Alliance, which groups hunters from Canada, Iceland, Norway and other countries, says there is enough scientific evidence that several whale stocks can be hunted in a sustainable way, including the minke whales, the smallest of the baleen whales at about 30 feet.

The anti-whaling bloc says whaling should be discouraged altogether and that the methods used to kill whales are often inhumane. Many also condemn a research program conducted by Japan as commercial whaling in disguise.

There are other divisive issues on the meeting's agenda, such as a first gathering of the Conservation Committee, which was established at last year's annual meeting in Berlin amid great controversy and against the will of Japan. Opponents said the committee's real goal is not conservation but protectionism.

## Seminary scandal

VIENNA, Austria — A 27-year-old Polish seminary student has been charged with possession and distribution of child pornography, a prosecutor said Monday as an investigation widened into Austria's worst church sex scandal in nearly a decade.

State prosecutor Walter Nemes said in a statement that the student downloaded "numerous" lurid photos from a Web site based in his native Poland.

Authorities say up to 40,000 photos and numerous videos, including child pornography and

pictures of candidates for the priesthood kissing and fondling each other and their older instructors, were found at the Roman Catholic seminary in St. Pölten.

## Nations face EU court

BRUSSELS, Belgium — The European Union's head office said Monday it is taking five countries to the European Court of Justice for failing to fully incorporate EU anti-discrimination directives into their laws.

The commission will refer Luxembourg and Germany to the court because they have not reported changes to their laws. Aus-

trea, Finland and Greece face charges because they have not completely adopted the law.

## Bolivia's gas exports

LA PAZ, Bolivia — Bolivians voted in favor of exporting the nation's vast natural gas reserves in a referendum victory for the president, nine months after nearly 60 people died in street fighting against such export plans.

Exit polls by United and ATB television stations said that between 56 percent and 63 percent said "yes" to the question asking if gas should be exported.

From The Associated Press



BOEING AIRCRAFT

Employees work the production line for the Boeing 777 jetliner at the company's plant in Long Beach, Calif. Boeing is one of more than 1,300 exhibitors showing off the latest in aviation technology at the Farnborough International Airshow in England. Europe's Airbus is expected to go head-to-head with rival Boeing at the exhibition.

# Boeing, Airbus vie for dominance at international show

BY BRUCE STANLEY  
The Associated Press

FARNBOROUGH, England — Boeing Co. and Airbus SAS were expected to announce new plane sale orders and discuss their strategies for achieving dominance of the air industry at the Farnborough International Airshow that opened here Monday.

More than 300,000 people were to attend the biennial show this week where more than 1,300 exhibitors from 32 countries will show off the latest in aviation technology, including flight simulators and a space pavilion run by the British National Space Center.

A miniature town complete with traffic circles and avenues has sprung up on the 66-acre Farnborough Aerodrome site just south of London for the large temporary exhibition.

Security was tight with about 300 police officers, some carrying machine guns, on hand. British police are usually unarmed.

About 20 demonstrators opposed to the global arms trade turned up outside the show's gates to protest British government subsidies to defense industries.

While potential buyers examine the latest in everything from jet seats to ground radar systems at the event, others will be able to take in a daily air display featuring a total of 200 aircraft.

Europe's Airbus and U.S. rival Boeing are going head-to-head with very different visions for the future of commercial aviation.

Airbus, which delivered more planes than Boeing for the first time in 2003, was expected to continue promoting its new A380 super jumbo jet. The carrier sees a market for super jumbos carrying passengers via major regional and connecting flights.

Boeing is casting its future on direct point-to-point routes served by its 217-seat 777 "Dreamliner," to be launched in 2008.

The Financial Times reported Monday that more news could emerge at the air show about delays in a new contract by Britain, Germany, Spain and Italy for a batch of 236 Eurofighters.

The FT said senior executives at EADS, the Franco-German aerospace group, have blamed Britain for holding up the contract, saying if no deal is signed before the end of this month the delay could add up to budget program.

The Farnborough air show, organized by the Society of British Aerospace Companies, lasts until Sunday.

Friday, Saturday and Sunday will see an airborne celebration of the work of Rolls-Royce to mark the 100th anniversary of the meeting of Charles Rolls and Henry Royce.

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## OPINION

## U.S. should leave Iraq from the inside out ...

**W**ell, it's a fine old mess they've gotten us into.

President Bush says he was right to invade Iraq even if none of the reasons for going turned out to be true — and what we need to do is “stay the course.” Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld says, “It’s quite clear to me that we do not have a coherent approach to this [the war against terrorism].”

Our president says that the country is much safer today because of his decisions.

Our secretary of homeland security says that we need to be on the alert for a big al-Qaida terror attack inside the United States any day now.

The wars in Iraq and Afghanistan have taken the lives of nearly 1,000 American servicemen to date. They threaten to break utterly our Army and Marine Corps, not to mention the misused and overworked Reserve and National Guard units.

Retired Navy Capt. John Byron, in the July issue of *Proceedings of the Naval Institute*, writes: “The war in Iraq is wrecking the Army and the Marine Corps. Troop rotations are in shambles and the all-volunteer force is starting to crumble as we extend combat tours and struggle to get enough boots on the ground.”

“We have broken our social contract with the members of the National Guard

and the reserve forces, misusing them as substitutes for active forces in an open-ended operation in Iraq that is well short of national emergency. These backup forces are demoralized and headed for the door.”

This administration cannot admit that mistakes have been made. Not even one mistake. If they do the whole house of cards might tumble.

But if you won't admit a mistake, how do you go about correcting it? When you find you're in a hole, stop digging.

So here is a modest proposal to begin improving our situation in Iraq: We will withdraw our forces to desert enclaves along the Iraqi borders with Kuwait and Saudi Arabia and Turkey. Since the Iraqis don't want us patrolling their streets, we won't. We will hand over that duty to the newly sovereign Iraqi government and its police, militia and army.

By building our camps in the vicinity of borders with friendly nations we will greatly shorten our supply lines and remove them from Iraq's roads. There will be no American trucks on the highways to be blown up, burned and looted.

We will guarantee Iraq's security from external threat. It will be up to the Iraqis whether they now build for themselves a new, peaceful country.

Our military camps should have a 20-mile clear field of fire all around and signs in eight languages warning that all who trespass face imminent death. This should allow us to begin reducing the 140,000 servicemen now tied down securing and policing Iraq and its cities and towns and highways.



A division each — 15,000 troops — in three enclaves, north, south and central, should be enough to maintain the presence. Two Army divisions, one Marine, all of them active duty. That will free the National Guard and Reserves, who now make up nearly half the force, to go home and resume their normal lives.

All matters of contracting for rebuilding and rehabilitating basic services in Iraq would then be handled by the Iraqi government, using their oil revenues. No American contract employees would remain in Iraq, except for those working for the

American military inside the three American enclaves.

That would mean no Americans available for kidnapping or brutal televised execution.

There would then be two standard answers for almost any question about a problem in Iraq:

■ It's not our problem.

■ It's not our business.

How's that for a way out of the mess?

Joseph L. Galloway is the senior military correspondent for Knight Ridder Newspapers and co-author of the national best-seller “We Were Soldiers Once ... and Young.”

## ... even though this Marine sees some signs of hope

BY STEVE DANYLUK

CENTRAL SOUTH AREA OF OPERATIONS, Iraq

**I**'m serving outside the Iraqi town of Hillia, in the central South, with a small detachment of U.S. Marines. A couple of days ago we drove up to Baghdad on the main supply route, “MSR Tampa” — basically a six-lane highway. Since April it's been closed to civilian traffic because a half-dozen bridges were blown up along the route. Driving on it you feel as if you're a cast member in a remake of “Mad Max” — “Where are all the people?”

On the way we came across a semi-trailer that about 50 Iraqis were in the process of looting. As they saw us approach they scattered. I told the sergeant driving me that by the time we drove by later in the day the semi would be nothing more than a shell. I'd seen this often.

Four hours later we drove by and the site was secured by the Iraqi National Guard; no looters were in sight. Apparently the guard was even involved in a firefight protecting the property. Maybe the Iraqis are getting fed up with the lawlessness and the anarchy and are beginning to take matters into their own hands. Still, it will take time. Some units in the guard are good, some not so good.

Standardization is a problem across the board, but the biggest obstacle to overcome will be that of the traumatized mind-set of the Iraqi people.

For 30 years Iraqis were brutalized by a tyrant. The collective psyche of the Iraqi people is akin to that of a battered wife whose oppressor has finally been removed from the household. They're far better off with the batterer gone, but they're scared, confused and lacking the confidence to go it on their own just yet. It will take continuous mentoring, counseling and a lot of



**A U.S. servicemember stands guard on a highway in Baghdad on July 10 as Iraqi National Guard members climb aboard a transport truck.**

AP

time. Our Marines are doing these things with great skill and patience. The sooner we fix it the sooner we can come home.

I've become friends with a lieutenant colonel in the Iraqi National Guard here.

Real bright guy, speaks good English, lived in Europe for five years. He makes \$250 a month, doesn't own a car, rides a bus for two hours to get to work and lives in constant fear that his family will be targeted

because he is in the guard. “Why do you do it,” I asked him, knowing he could make five times that amount as a translator or a contractor here on the base. His response was that doing nothing is not an option. If you ask me, guys like him are the true heroes over here. “Is there hope for this place?” I asked.

“No, there is no hope,” he responded sarcastically. Again, “Why do you do it,” and again the answer: You can't just do nothing.

Our Marines are getting so much support from back home and so many “care packages” that I've decided to start asking people to send those packages instead to my Iraqi friend, packages that he can then hand out and distribute to his troops and their families. We have so much, and they have so little.

Steve Danyluk is a major in the U.S. Marine Corps. This column first appeared in *The Washington Post*.

## Mallard Fillmore

BY BRUCE TINSLEY



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## Disputed appraisal

**CA** LOS ANGELES — The California Coastal Commission is questioning an appraisal that says Hearst Ranch is worth more than twice the \$95 million the state is being asked to pay to preserve it.

A Hearst attorney, however, says one of the commission employees raising the issue has a conflict of interest because she spoke out against the plan as a member of a conservation group.

Sarah Christie, legislative analyst for the commission, said the state's \$230 million appraisal of the scenic rangeland was inflated because it falsely assumed Hearst would be allowed to build more than 400 homes on the land if no preservation deal is reached. The commission, which regulates coastal development, said the state's Coastal Act would prohibit so much building.

Roger Lyon, an attorney for Hearst, said the \$230 million appraisal was conservative, and that most of the homes the company would have the right to build would be outside the commission's jurisdiction.

## Heat causes power spike

**TN** KNOXVILLE — Southeastern residents trying to stay cool in the scalding summer heat pushed demand for Tennessee Valley Authority electricity to a new high, TVA said Wednesday.

The federal utility, which serves 8.5 million consumers in seven Southeastern states, set an all-time record at 6 p.m. EDT on Tuesday.

With the temperature across the valley averaging 92 degrees, demand for TVA power reached 29,878 megawatts.

The previous all-time mark was set in the winter — 29,866 megawatts on Jan. 24, 2003, when temperatures averaged 6 degrees.

The previous summer peak was 29,344 megawatts on Aug. 17, 2000.

## Utility shutoff increase

**RI** PROVIDENCE — Utility shutoffs have hit levels not seen in seven years, with almost 11,000 customers losing their service due to nonpayment in the first half of 2004.

According to data compiled by the Division of Public Utilities and Carriers, gas and electric companies shut off service to 10,889 customers by the end of June. That's the highest number since 1997, when there were 11,933 shutoffs by the end of June.

The figures for this year represent a 27 percent increase over the first six months of last year.

The number of households that have had service restored also has risen, but not at the same rate as shutoffs. For the year, about 60 percent of disconnected customers have been restored, compared with 62 percent last year, and 72.2 percent in 2002.

## Homeless in Hawaii

**HI** HONOLULU — Hawaii's festering and growing home-



## AMERICAN ROUNDUP

lessness problem needs to be solved before it begins to affect the state's economy, tourist industry and land values, Gov. Linda Lingle said Thursday.

She told the Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii's annual membership meeting that her administration hopes to develop a partnership among the government, the private sector and nonprofit organizations for a six-year plan to deal with the homelessness.

The target is to develop 17,000 lower-cost rental units statewide over the next five years.

"We've come dangerously close to accepting homelessness as a problem that we just can't solve," she said.

Her plan includes finding land suitable for affordable rental housing, increasing the state housing agency's bonding authority and increasing the standard deduction on state taxes.

## Arrests in crime spree

**CT** NEW HAVEN — Police arrested two young men and implicated three others in a string of random shootings from stolen cars that injured five men.

Two men were arrested, and charges were expected against three others. All the alleged perpetrators have confessed, said Police Chief Francisco Ortiz.

Police said the suspects stole as many as three cars a night to take joyrides around the city. They somehow got a .22-caliber semiautomatic handgun, possibly left in



## Jet head

A member of the Air Force One flight crew inspects one of the jet's engines in Tampa, Fla.

one of the stolen cars, police said.

"At some point when they were driving around, they decided to do something foolish," Ortiz said. "Somebody said, 'Let's go shoot somebody.'"

## Drug ring broken up

**IN** EVANSVILLE — A federal grand jury has indicted 37 alleged drug dealers from four states who are accused of pouring cocaine, marijuana and heroin into southern Indiana.

Drug Enforcement Administration agent Armand McClintock announced the indictments and some arrests in the operation dubbed "Operation Hard Rock."

The indictments target three inter-connected drug rings operating in Evansville, Princeton and western Kentucky, said Susan Brooks, the U.S. attorney for southern Indiana.

Together, the drug rings moved, in street values, more than \$30 million in cocaine, \$1 million in marijuana and at least \$350,000 in heroin, Brooks said.

## Pistol packin' in public

**VA** FAIRFAX — Some people are exercising their right to pack heat openly, baffling Fairfax County police.

Police recently received a 911 call from a restaurant in Reston.

Six men were seated at a table, the caller said. They were all armed.

Dispatchers quickly sent four officers to the restaurant. The officers were "extremely polite" and were hoping some of the men were in law enforcement, said Sgt. Richard Perez, a spokesman for the police department.

None was. The men told the officers "they were just exercising their rights as citizens of the commonwealth," Perez said.

Packing a pistol in public in legal in Virginia. And three times in the past month, residents have been spotted out and about in the county, with guns strapped to their hips.

## Copcat air sickness

**MD** LINTHICUM — An ill passenger aboard a flight from Houston whose distress induced "sympathy nausea" in three other passengers triggered an emergency response when the plane landed at Baltimore-Washington International Airport, airport and airline officials say.

Ambulance crews from neighboring counties, BWI's fire and rescue service, a hazmat team and medical personnel greeted Southwest Flight 1283 when it landed at 10:26 p.m. Thursday after the pilot notified an in-flight emergency assistance service of the passengers' illness.

Because it was initially unclear what caused the illness, hazmat teams examined the craft and found no abnormalities, Ellison said.

Matt Haffner, regional director for Southwest, said air samples were taken, but no contaminants were found.



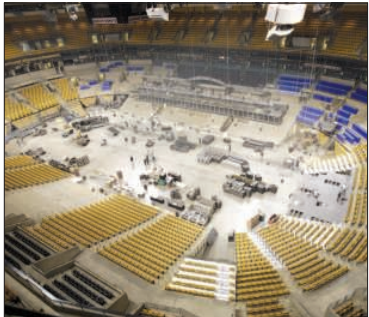
## Rainy opening

Dark skies and a large downpour did not keep visitors away from the grand opening of Chicago's new \$475 million Millennium Park. At left, a child's face is projected from one of two 50-foot glass towers featuring the faces of 1,000 Chicagoans on either side of the Crown Fountain, designed by Spanish sculptor Jaume Plensa.



## Washed out

Employee Mike McCarty surveys the damage to the Valley Hi Golf Course in Colorado Springs, Colo., after it was flooded by heavy rains.



## Dems on the way

Construction continues on the interior of the FleetCenter in Boston in preparation for the July 26-29 Democratic National Convention. The arena seats 18,400, and has a full-screen, three-foot-high video display that rings the arena with messages and other announcements, and high-definition broadcasts to the screens within the arena.





## Great view

A hot-air balloon soars over southern Dutchess County, N.Y., at sunrise. Balloons came to the region for the Poughkeepsie Area Chamber of Commerce Balloon Festival.



## Scenic ride

Riding past with her door open, a girl waves at a deer on a road Saturday in Valley Forge National Historical Park in Valley Forge, Pa.



## Standing tall

The Swiss Reinsurance Headquarters in London, which stands 590 feet tall, is part of the "Tall Buildings" for the 21st century exhibition at MoMA Queens in New York, which features scale models of 25 skyscrapers.



## Finding the hot spot

31 near Fairbanks, Alaska.

The Mountain Village, Alaska, type II crew walks through an area burned by the Boundary Fire looking for hot spots along the Steese Highway at Mile 31 near Fairbanks, Alaska.

## Gator used as weapon

**FL** PORT ORANGE — A man hit his girlfriend with a 3-foot alligator and threw beer bottles at her during an argument in the couple's mobile home, authorities said.

David Havenner, 41, faces misdemeanor charges of battery and possession of an alligator.

The alligator, which Havenner had been keeping in his bathtub, was turned over to Florida wildlife officials.

Nancy Monico, 39, told investigators that Havenner beat her with his fists, then grabbed the alligator and swung it at her as she tried to escape, sheriff's spokesman Gary Davidson said. She said the animal hit her at least once. She also told authorities that Havenner threw empty beer bottles at her, Davidson said.

Havenner's version of the story differed. He told investigators that Monico bit his hand because she was upset that they had run out of alcohol.

## Salmon to be subsidized

**AK** ANCHORAGE — Pacific salmon fishermen in Alaska and Washington state will soon be getting federal subsidy checks of up to \$10,000 to make up for foreign-farmed fish driving down market prices.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Farm Service Agency — which has until now mainly provided price support for farmers — is paying the subsidies for the first time through the Trade Adjustment Assistance program.

An increase in imports in farmed salmon, particularly from Chile, caused the price of an Alaska commercial fishermen's catch to drop from a five-year average of 40 cents a pound to 26 cents a pound in 2002, USDA officials said.

In Washington, the five-year average price was 91 cents a pound. It fell to 59 cents in 2002.

"This is an attempt by the USDA to provide for some market loss due to foreign competition," said Jim Fitzgerald, Washington state executive director for the Farm Service Agency. "You can call that a subsidy. I sort of lean toward a market loss."

## Suspect in mall rapes

**WI** MADISON — Authorities have charged a man they believe raped as many as two dozen mall workers from 1999 to 2001.

James D. Perry, 34, who is being held in the county jail, was charged with two of the mall attacks Thursday and was also charged with more than two dozen sexual assaults of small children, many of which he allegedly captured on video.

He already faces sentencing in federal court after pleading guilty to creating child pornography.

Investigators said they connected Perry to the mall rape cases after he allegedly tried to abduct a girl at gunpoint from a hotel in February. Prosecutors say his image was captured on the hotel's security surveillance camera.

Days later in a separate child pornography investigation, the

FBI arrested Perry at his home and seized videotapes and CD-ROMs that allegedly show the child sexual assaults, which involve five victims under age 13.

In all, Perry, of Stoughton, was charged with 41 felony counts — including false imprisonment and kidnapping.

The so-called mall rapist attacked female mall workers in Madison parking lots or as they worked alone in their stores.

## Bad gamble

**NJ** ELMWOOD PARK — A bookie sent prostitutes to the homes of gamblers in four states and let them collect their winnings in sex, police said.

Police Chief Don Ingrassellino said that Salvatore Teodoro used prostitutes — two of them minors — to deliver winnings to bettors in New Jersey, New York, Connecticut and Pennsylvania.

The gamblers were then given the choice of taking their winnings in sex or cash or a combination of the two.

"It brought up his profit margin a bit," Ingrassellino said.

Teodoro, 46, also was accused of kidnapping and other charges for tying up a man he correctly suspected was a police informant and threatening to shoot him and break his legs with a baseball bat.

## Car, horse collide

**CA** MERCED — A man was killed when the car in which he was a passenger struck a horse, smashing the animal through his window and causing fatal injuries.

Barbara Eicker, 52, was driving Roland Ramirez, 62, southbound on a dark stretch of Highway 49 when she saw several people waving their arms along the side of the road, the California Highway Patrol reported.

Eicker saw four horses in her lane and slowed down but was unable to stop. A dark-colored horse struck the passenger-side hood and windshield.

The horse partially entered Ramirez's side of the car, killing him.

## Septic tank death

**FL** TAMPA — A man who fell into sewage after he was overwhelmed by methane fumes while cleaning a septic tank has died.

Kermit Dale Lancaster was recovered by rescuers who labored more than half an hour to pull Lancaster out of the tiny space filled with sewage at an apartment building.

Lancaster, 67, was cleaning out the septic tank's lift station when methane gas fumes overwhelmed him.

As he began to feel the effects of the fumes, he called for help, then passed out and slipped into the sewage, said police spokesman Joe Durkin.

Durkin said Lancaster had not been wearing any protective equipment to guard against the methane fumes.

Stories and photos from The Associated Press

# U.S. food banks see surge in customers

BY DAVID CRARY

The Associated Press

DELANCO, N.J. — Appropriately, the Catholic Charities food bank here is tucked in the corner of a shopping mall. Its clients come from generally affluent suburbs, many felt disbelief when hard times compelled them, for the first time, to seek help.

"Of course I'd never gone to any of these things — I didn't even know they existed," said Norma Bacino, who resorted to the food bank after her husband left, leaving four preteen sons in her care.

Months of steady assistance have made Bacino grateful: "If I had a million dollars, I'd give it to them." But her first visit to pick up donated food was difficult. "You're down and out, you're apprehensive," Bacino said. "Even though you realize you're not the only one, it's culture shock."

Bacino, 44, is part of a phenomenon occurring at urban, rural and suburban food banks nationwide — a surge of first-time clients who never before considered themselves needy but suddenly, because of a lay-off or other challenge, cannot pay their rent or living costs.

"Our affiliates all tell us, 'We've never seen so many people come in who we've never seen before, who say they need help just this one time,'" said Kevin Seggelle, CEO of the Denver-based Food Bank of the Rockies.

According to the Agriculture Department, 11 percent of U.S. families — encompassing 34.9 million people — lack the means to ensure themselves of healthy

meals and are vulnerable to at least a mild form of chronic malnutrition. A U.S. Conference of Mayors survey of 25 cities found that demand at food banks rose 17 percent in 2003, with Denver and Trenton, N.J., experiencing the biggest surges in families seeking help.

Catholic Charities of Trenton has experienced a 40 percent increase in demand for emergency food aid this year — including a 43 percent rise in Delanco and other suburban towns of Burlington County, where nearly 600 families a month are getting help.

Many families first seek help with back rents, mortgages and utility fees, but Joyce Campbell — director of Catholic Charities Emergency Services in Delanco — said her agency lacks the cash to help with such requests.

"We suggest they come into the program to get some food and clothing and save their money to pay their bills," she said.

The storeroom adjoining Campbell's office resembles a modest grocery store — shelves of soda, beer and snack food. The shelves are stacked with soup cans and cardboard jars, rows of grocery bags are stuffed with items intended to cover 10 days' worth of meals.

Among those getting help from Campbell's office are Pamela Reed-Loy, her husband, and the four children he lived for the past year. The family has become a steady client of the food bank in nearby Delanco.

Reed-Loy, 42, said she is unable to work,



Pamela Reed-Loy combs the hair of her daughter Brooklyn in their motel room in Maple Shade, N.J., where Reed-Loy, her husband and two other children have lived for the past year. The family has become a steady client of the food bank in nearby Delanco.

needing free time to deal with her 6-year-old daughter's frequent asthma attacks. Her husband, Archie Loy, earns \$18 an hour as a mechanic, but much of the take-home pay goes to pay the motel bill.

"It's stressful, living all in one room — you can't get away from anybody," Reed-Loy said. "The kids get upset because their friends can't come over to

spend the night."

Reed-Loy has become a steady client of the food bank in nearby Delanco. Without the extra two bags of groceries a month, "we'd have been up a creek without a paddle," she said.

"I know people who won't go — who don't want to be seen," she said. "But why? I'd never let my kids go hungry. Don't let your pride get in the way."

## Virtual patients help train doctors, nurses

BY LINDA A. JOHNSON

The Associated Press

NEW BRUNSWICK, N.J. — Today, many doctors in training are making their first diagnoses — and their first mistakes — on plastic, wires and computer circuits rather than flesh and blood. These virtual patients come in different shapes and sizes, much like the real ones.

The almost lifelike mannequins have plastic ears and hair, veins that can be injected, eyes that can move and interchangeable genitals. They can't be hurt or killed, even though they have a pulse, a beating heart and lungs that breathe. The most sophisticated can be programmed to simulate every imaginable medical crisis and then respond as a doctor works on the "patient."

One virtual reality-type simulators combine video or computer images with tactile feedback. Trainees insert needles or surgical tools into a plastic box whose innards give the sensation of flesh or push through through body parts such as the throat or colon. A video screen shows what a doctor would watch during the procedure, such as ultrasound images.

"Do I think this is a wave of the future?" a question, said Dr. Stephen Miller of the American Board of Medical Specialties, which oversees certification for medical specialists.

The top experts are pricey but so realistic systems predict they'll become standard for training new doctors and for testing experienced ones who soon will face tougher recertification.

Already simulators are widely used

for training U.S. military medics and nurses and medical technicians at many community colleges.

"The mannequin is excellent," said Dr. Eric Chang, a second-year surgical resident who has trained in the simulation center at Robert Wood Johnson Medical School in New Brunswick.

"This kind of buffs you up in terms of encountering certain problems... You have to react to what's happening" and select the right treatment.

Dr. Cynthia Yuan, a second-year resident in anesthesia, said the mannequin "helps them to think when they're in a real situation. I think they should do more of this."

Medical school professors say simulators help their students and residents build confidence and make mistakes — before they treat real patients.

Students sometimes get so caught up in a training scenario that they are upset if a monitor shows the patient has died. One anesthesiology resident who had selected a "patient" for surgery, then couldn't insert a breathing tube, frantically resorted to mouth-to-mouth resuscitation, Levine recalled.

Dr. Jeffrey S. Hammond, professor of surgery at Robert Wood Johnson, said advanced simulators offer better surgery practice than cadavers, pigs or dogs. "I think every school is ultimately going to... determine this is one of the most effective and cost-effective ways to train students."

Hammond notes two studies have shown that surgical residents trained on simulators made fewer errors and



A Human Patient Simulator lies on a table as Dr. Cynthia Yuan, a resident at Robert Wood Johnson Medical School in New Brunswick, N.J., confers with Dr. Jeffrey S. Hammond, professor of surgery at the school, about the results of a test she performed using the virtual patient.

operated more quickly than those who got the traditional "See one, do one, teach one" training, in which residents observe experienced doctors, do procedures under supervision and then independently, and later train others.

Still, the simulators are expensive. Scaled-down simulators cost at least \$40,000 and the most high-tech ones cost well over \$200,000. Because different models teach different skills, putting together a bare bones lab costs at least \$600,000 and a top-notch center can cost \$2.5 million, Hammond said.

## Bars brawl over Hemingway link

The Associated Press

KEY WEST, Fla. — In a dispute fitting of an Ernest Hemingway novel, two bars in the hard-drinking author's former home are fighting over rights to use the name of his old watering hole.

But this bar brawl is taking place in court.

Sloppy Joe's Bar and Captain Tony's Saloon are half a block from each other in Key West, and both claim Hemingway used to drink there.

From 1933 to 1937, Hemingway friend "Sloppy Joe" Russell ran a bar out of a former city morgue where Captain Tony's now is located. Russell moved half a block to the current Sloppy Joe's location in 1937. Captain Tony's now has signs identifying it as "The First and Original Sloppy Joe's, 1933-1937."

Sloppy Joe's Enterprises International Inc. sued in federal court July 7, saying Captain Tony's Key West Bar Inc. was infringing on its trademark. By calling itself "the original Sloppy Joe's," Captain Tony's is creating confusion in the marketplace, the lawsuit said.

The owners of Captain Tony's, Joe Faber and Richard Johnson, were out of town and unavailable for comment Monday, a bar worker said.

Sidney Snelgrove and John Mayer, who bought the bar named Sloppy Joe's in 1978, are asking U.S. District Judge James Lawrence King to order Captain Tony's to stop making the claim.

"Captain Tony's products are not of Sloppy Joe's quality, and the condition of its premises does not meet Sloppy Joe's standards. As a result, Captain Tony's has sullied Sloppy Joe's distinctive style and decor," the suit said.

As well as serving food and drinks, Sloppy Joe's has a "Hemingway Picture Wall" covered with black-and-white photos of the author. Hemingway's fishing rod dangles from high ceilings. His skills are engraved in Plexiglas on a wall by the stage.

Captain Tony's has brass hanging from the low-slung rafters and business cards stapled to the walls. It doesn't sell food. There is a single butt of Hemingway, and a single photograph of the author fishing with Captain Tony Tarracino, a former owner of the bar and one-time mayor.



## FACES 'N' PLACES

## Train song gets burst of superhero steam



Members of Train, from left, are bassist Charlie Colin, drummer Scott Underwood, guitarist Jimmy Stafford and leader singer Pat Monahan. Recently Colin has left the band.

## California-based band hopes to snare more chart time with new tune in 'Spider-Man 2'

BY KENT KIMES  
Knight Ridder/Tribune

**T**wo summers ago, Nickelback's Chad Kroeger and Saliva's Josey Scott crawled up the charts with the anthemlike single "Hero" from the blockbuster silver screen adaptation of Marvel Comics' "Spider-Man."

California-based rock band Train is hoping to spin the same type of superhero magic.

Train contributed the new song "Ordinary" to the "Spider-Man 2" flick, and the tune has been chosen as the first single from the accompanying soundtrack.

"(Frontman) Pat [Monahan] was invited to watch an advance screening of the movie to gear his mind toward the lyrics," said Train guitarist Jimmy Stafford.

"Ordinary" is inspired directly by the masked wall-crawler, but don't expect snippets of the kitschy "Spiderman/Spiderman/Does whatever a spider can" theme from the web-head's 1960s animated series to be incorporated.

There are some web-slinging allusions in the lyrics, Stafford said, as Monahan tried to capture the emotional conflict of young Peter Parker, who struggles to balance his normal life with the awesome responsibility of being a

**"[The song is] about a kid who is too young to be put in his position. He wishes he was ordinary."**

**Jimmy Stafford**  
Train guitarist

superhero.

"It's about a kid who is too young to be put in his position," Stafford said. "He wishes he was ordinary."

Since breaking out of the San Francisco coffeehouse scene, Train has steadily built up steam with a string of hit singles, including "Meet Virginia," the Grammy-winning "Drops of Jupiter" and "Calling All Angels," which has spent 48 weeks on Billboard's Hot Adult Contemporary chart.

"Angels" wasn't a hit on the magnitude of "Jupiter," but they've become a reliable hot [Adult Contemporary] presence, and between those two songs and 'Meet Virginia,' they've proved that they have more than one song in them. This might be a heretical comparison for South Carolina,

but I think of them as this decade's Hootie (and the Blowfish)," said Sean Ross, vice president of music programming for Edison Media Research.

"They've also managed to string together three albums, which is an achievement these days. And, unlike Hootie, they haven't been so much of a radio presence that there's been a backlash against them."

Stafford said he has stopped paying attention to chart positions and album sales, instead focusing his energy on live performances, Train's real strength, he said.

The band is recording a live album set for an autumn release, Stafford said. "It seems like we've been known as a live band, and we've built our reputation on touring," he said.

Along the road to success, a couple of Train members, original guitarist Rob Hotchkiss and most recently bassist Charlie Colin, disembarked.

In their places are keyboard player Brendan Bush and former Black Crowes bassist Johnny Colt, both of whom will be extended official membership soon, Stafford said.

"Pat, [drummer] Scott [Underwood] and myself have a lot invested in this band," Stafford said. "But we'll have something resolved by the end of summer."

## Knight of the World Wide Web

The father of the World Wide Web was knighted by Queen Elizabeth II and said his revolutionary invention was the result of being in the right place at the right time.

"I suppose it's amazing when you think how many things people get involved in that don't work. It's very heartening that this one actually did," said Tim Berners-Lee, who was accompanied to the Buckingham Palace in London investiture by his wife and two children on Friday.

While working at CERN, the European Particle Physics Laboratory near Geneva in the late 1980s, Berners-Lee developed the architecture of the Internet — the Web system of servers and browsers — which he distributed free of charge.

British-born Berners-Lee, who is now based at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Boston, said members of the royal family were no technophobes.

"I think the family are pretty knowledgeable about it," he said. "I've met the Duke [of Edinburgh] before and he was well aware of the history of IT."



Berners-Lee

## Slain singer's album to be released

Elliott Smith's final album, "from a basement on the hill," will be released Oct. 19, a year after his death, his estate has announced.

He died in his Los Angeles apartment on Oct. 21 at age 34 of knife wounds. Though it was widely speculated that he'd killed himself, tests were inconclusive in determining whether it was suicide or murder.

The album was assembled and mixed by longtime friends Rob Schnapp and Joanna Bolme. Schnapp produced Smith's last three albums, the most recent of which was 2000's "Figure 8."

Pulled together from three years of studio work, the album is largely comprised of material never before released. It features 15 tracks and will be released by independent label Anti-Records.

Smith's death only added to the dark, confessional nature of his songs. Long a critical favorite, his "Miss Misery," from 1997's "Good Will Hunting," was nominated for an Academy Award.

## Affleck turns down film roll of coach

Ben Affleck has ended negotiations with Walt Disney Pictures to play Texas Western basketball coach Don

Haskins in the movie "Glory Road."

"He's not going to do it," Ken Sunshine, a spokesman for Affleck, said Wednesday. "We're not going to get into any details. ... It will be a good project for somebody."

Haskins' 1966 team was the first ever to win a national title with five black starters.

"We're looking for other actors," said Claire Cooper, the movie's unit publicist. "We still plan to start production in August."

Haskins, who coached 38 years at the school now known as the University of Texas at El Paso, said last week he'd heard Affleck had yet to sign his deal.

"I'm disappointed, but I know they'll find the right person," Haskins said.

Trade journals reported Wednesday that Disney is considering Josh Lucas, who has appeared in Ang Lee's "Hulk," "Sweet Home Alabama" and "A Beautiful Mind." Cooper said she couldn't confirm that Lucas is under consideration.

Stories and photos from The Associated Press



Affleck



# Horoscope

The Virgo moon could inspire a spat or two with the Cancer sun has as brawling with sensitivity. The problem is, we think we know what's best for others, and we probably do, but nobody wants to hear it. Make the most of this transit by focusing on your own improvements. Try not to let the details get in the way of creating a beautiful big picture.

Joyce Jillson



## TODAY'S BIRTHDAY

**(July 20)** Community and social power are important for you this year! The next three weeks bring change — cut ties, and meet plenty of new people. Career opportunities help you excel financially, but you must move quickly. In September, you're lucky on many levels. The more you give, the more you get. Look for romance with a sweet Sagittarius or popular Libra.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19).** See if you can ban a scarcity mentality, if not forever, at least for today. There is plenty to go around — plenty of love, money, fulfillment and everything you need to survive.

Do only activities that reinforce this idea.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20).** Stir up trouble of the most mischievous and immature kind — it's enjoyable to act like a kid! Getting down to business is near impossible now. Don't force yourself, as it's pointless. The mind has many ways of working things out.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 21).** A paradox: Being a little selfish will allow you to give more. By making your own happiness a higher priority, you handle problems. Work on physical self is never a waste, so allow yourself time for the gym.

**CANCER (June 22-July 22).** The theme is illusion vs. reality. You realize to what extent you are manipulating the way others see you — you show what you'd like them to see. Though you're keeping some things private, you'll be surprised what others sense.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22).** Stories have purpose. If you can move people emotionally, you can get them to do almost anything. But don't try to influence through reason.

No matter how logical a decision, if it doesn't feel right, it won't happen.

## VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22).

Work picks up, and slow progress toward a goal continues. You must follow through on a million details in order to get up to the meetings, dates and powwows you need to push your whole team to the next level.

## LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23).

Shake off any heaviness you feel. The more carefree you feel, the better. Try being your own best friend.

You are capable of this! It means taking your concerns seriously and actively seeking ways to make your own life easier.

or.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21).** Don't be seduced into believing that going somewhere new will give you a clean start. The real truth is that you don't have to go anywhere! Desire is all you need to get that new project or relationship off the ground.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21).** You're an excellent team builder — you're the one who finds a common ground that everyone can agree upon.

However, make sure your cause is truly going to benefit everyone involved. If it's practical, you'll find support.

## CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19).

Your nurturing spirit comes forward, not to smother loved ones but to urge them toward the edge of the nest and even give a push if necessary. You're teaching loved ones to fly.

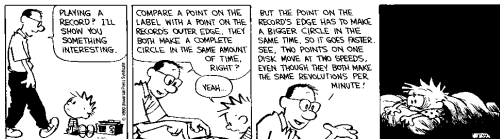
Home offers creative opportunities. Take the extra time to go over your day in advance. Being prepared will help you relax. Though you are certainly a thinking, conscious individual, you're prone to emotional impulses today.

## AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18).

From the minute you open your eyes in the morning until you close them for sleep at night, everything in between is a chance for you either to build or diminish your character. Make choices you will be proud of later.

Creators Syndicate

Calvin and Hobbes



Jump Start



Zits



Cathy



Hi and Lois



Beetle Bailey



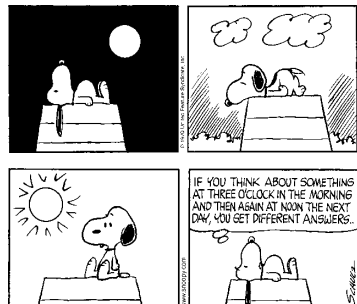
Red Rover



Better or Worse



## Peanuts



Fotrot



B.C.



Baby Blues



Spider Man



Blondie



Dilbert



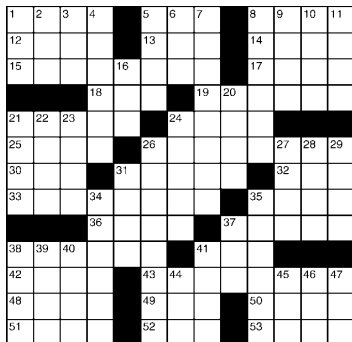
Hagar



Garfield



## Eugene Sheffer Crossword



## Across

- 1 Untamed tyke
- 5 Society newcomer
- 8 Last writes
- 12 Half-length
- 13 Stout relative
- 14 Desire
- 15 Judy of CNN
- 17 New Mexico art colony
- 18 Go up and down
- 19 Edmonton team
- 21 Bear
- 24 Salad ingredient
- 25 Dryer collection
- 26 1983 Streep film
- 30 Calendar abbr.
- 31 Anatomical hinges
- 32 Pair
- 33 Newman's longtime mate
- 35 Egg container
- 36 Galleys supply
- 37 Uses an atomizer
- 38 Big carnival site
- 41 Cartoons
- 42 Hitchcock movie
- 43 Callahan portrayer
- 48 Square
- 49 "Go team!"
- 50 Davenport's place
- 51 Says "I do"
- 52 See 53-Across
- 53 With 52-Across, aphorism intro

## Down

- 1 German car
- 2 33-Across port
- 3 Fuss
- 4 Morsel
- 5 Color crudely
- 6 Pole employee
- 7 Sullied
- 8 Criminal
- 9 Highland hillside
- 10 "Young Frankenstein" role
- 11 Mrs. Dick Tracy
- 16 Director
- 17 Howard
- 20 Cartoonist's supply
- 21 Forceful hit
- 22 Puerto—
- 23 Golden Rule word
- 24 Layers
- 26 Angry dogs, maybe
- 27 Pandoric works
- 28 Vote of the island
- 29 Seurat minutiae
- 31 River in a 1957 movie
- 34 Several of them are gross
- 35 Fool
- 37 "A-Team" actor
- 38 Caudron concoction
- 39 Bush ally Karl
- 40 Showed unoriginality
- 41 Wan
- 44 Motorists' org.
- 45 La-la preceptor
- 46 Play with plastic
- 47 Rotation duration

## Answer to Previous Puzzle



7-20

## CRYPTOQUIP

Y T U K Y Q D M B G B L M A  
E Y W A B Q T T J D W E Y A G B M  
K Q U P B, Y I R B A A E B ' A

RAYPI MEB TOYBJ BALUKB.  
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: The NUCLEAR REACTOR IS OVERHEATING, I GUESS SOMEONE MUST HAVE A CORE TO SETTLE.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: A equals S

# Stalking is a serious problem

**Dear Abby:** My family is dealing with a concern similar to "Trapped in Louisville." My teenage son is dating a lovely girl who attends a neighboring high school. She is being harassed by a boy who attends her school, rides her bus and lives in her neighborhood. I'll call him "Willy."

Willy has refused to honor repeated requests by the young lady to leave her alone. He makes unwanted advances toward her at school, follows her home and trespasses on her property.

**Dear Abby**



The young lady's mother is not around during the daytime, due to her career. Her father is away defending our country. If my son becomes involved, I'm afraid there could be violence. I don't know what to do.

There are no witnesses willing to get involved. How do we get solid proof so Willy will not cause her harm? Who can we tell so that this will stop? We don't

want to make this problem worse than it already is. Willy has threatened retribution if he gets into trouble over this.

— **Deeply Concerned in Lawrenceville, Ga.**

**Dear Concerned:** It is time for the young lady's mother to pick up the phone and inform the police that her daughter is being stalked and threatened. Read on:

**Dear Abby:** I read the letter from "Trapped in Louisville" with mounting alarm and a horrible sense of déjà vu.

I am a university professor in a small coastal town. Our university is still in shock from the kidnapping, beating, rape and murder of a sophomore student in her dormitory. The student who admitted to the crime had been pestering the girl for dates, despite repeated rebuffs.

During the police investiga-

tion, the girl's father said, "There was a boy who was stalking her, but we thought that had gone by the wayside."

I disagree with your advice that "Trapped" should speak up to her stalker or have her parents call him. They should go straight to law enforcement NOW.

— **Concerned Educator, University of North Carolina**  
**Dear Concerned:** I stand corrected. My deepest sympathy goes to the family of that unfortunate woman.

There are laws against stalking in all 50 states and Washington, D.C. There are also laws against stalking at the federal level. Stalking is abusive, antisocial, sick behavior. It is not a compliment to the victim, and it is not benign. Stalkers are addicts, and the substance to which they are addicted is their prey. That is why stalkers should be considered dangerous and the police should be notified when stalking occurs.

Letters for this column — with your name and phone number — should be addressed to Dear Abby, P.O. Box 6940, Los Angeles, CA 90069. Readers can write to Abby on the Internet at <http://www.auspress.com/dearabby>

Universal Press Syndicate

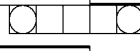
## JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

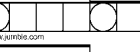
**COTTE**



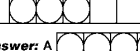
**VASUE**



**CRAFTO**



**LAMDAY**



**Answer: A**

**WAS**

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's

Jumbles: OZONE CRESS AUTUMN BELFRY  
Answer: What the sailors ended up with when the ship ran aground — A SEA OF TROUBLE

## THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

by Henri Arnold and Mike Argiron

The 800/900 nos. have been DISCONTINUED.



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

# Prepare autistic child for rudeness

**Dear Annie:** We have a 4-year-old autistic son, although there is nothing about his physical appearance to indicate he suffers from our developmental disability. Our son is unable to speak and has social problems, including occasional yelling, hitting us if he hears another child cry, and throwing himself on the floor if he doesn't want to go where we need to take him.

The problem is that perfect strangers feel comfortable saying things like, "What a horrible little boy!" or, "Why don't you spank him?" "Make him be quiet!" and "What lousy parenting skills." One woman got right in my son's face and yelled, "Bad, bad boy!"

We are doing the best we can, and through special-ed preschool and private therapy sessions, my son has made huge improvements.

We have tried explaining to these people that our son is autistic,

**Annie's Mailbox**



tic, but we are annoyed that they are so quick to judge us. We fear our son is in for a lifetime of ridicule. How should we handle this?

— **Frustrated Parents in Illinois**

**Dear Frustrated:** It's unfortunate you cannot stop complete strangers from being rude. And you do not owe them an explanation for your son's behavior, although it must be tempting to shame them with the truth.

Instead, concentrate on your son's response, because he is the one who must learn to deal with such unkind remarks. He will need your unconditional love and support to strengthen his self-worth, and tactics for ignoring unwarranted insults. You can find suggestions and help by contacting The Autism Society of America ([www.autism-society.org](http://www.autism-society.org)), 7910 Woodmont Ave., Suite 300, Bethesda, MD 20814.

**Dear Annie:** My friend and I

have been having an argument, and we'd like your opinion. If a man offers to buy a woman a drink at a bar and the woman accepts, is she sending him a message that she is interested in him? I believe that the woman should not accept a drink unless she wants to chat, because otherwise, she is taking advantage of him. My girlfriend, however, will accept a drink from any man who offers, thank him and promptly walk away. I think this is wrong. What do you think?

— **Party Girl in Ft. Wayne, Ind.**  
**Dear Party Girl:** We think your friend is going to get into trouble one of these days. Accepting a man's offer for a drink most definitely gives the impression that you'd like to get to know him better. Your friend should not accept drinks from men she has no interest in. It is unfair, deceitful and potentially dangerous.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to [anniesmailbox@comcast.net](mailto:anniesmailbox@comcast.net), or write to: Annie's Mailbox, c/o Creators Syndicate, 5777 W. Century Blvd., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90045.

Creators Syndicate

## Family Circus

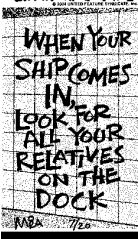


7-20

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"I'd feel better if we had four leashes."

## GRAFFITI



**Dennis the Menace**



**© Gary Larson**

**The Far Side**



**Non Sequitur**







# Devers, Webb cap final day of U.S. track and field trials

## Edwards' doping case could alter team makeup

By BOB BAUM  
The Associated Press

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — The U.S. track and field team is almost set for the Athens Olympics. The Olympic trials concluded Sunday with triumphs by the sport's young stars — Allyson Felix in the women's 200 meters and Alan Webb in the 1,500.

And victories by some old pros — Stacy Dragila in the pole vault and Gail Devers in the 100 hurdles.

The 37-year-old Devers, who prefers the term "seasoned" to describe her age, is set to become the third U.S. track and field athlete — joining Carl Lewis and Willye White — to compete in five Olympics.

Still to be determined are the final roster for the women's 100 and 200 meters, ashort Edwards is fighting a doping offense.

Edwards finished third for 200 to earn her second spot for Athens. She won the 100 on the men's opening weekend.

In between, she acknowledged she tested positive at a meet in Martinique for a banned stimulant. She said she ingested glucose — unbeknownst to her, included the stimulant as an additive.

Her voice cracked with emotion as she spoke following Sunday's races.

"It's been a tough last week for me dealing with all this," she

said. "I am innocent and I am going to go and fight my case."

An arbitration panel hearing on her case is scheduled Monday in Orange County. That decision could take a week or more, then either Edwards or the International Association of Athletics Federations could take the case to an international arbitration panel, where the finding would be binding.

Meanwhile, Devers waits to find out whether she will move onto the team in the 100, where she finished fourth in the trials.

She could compete in both events, or drop out of the 100 to concentrate on the hurdles. She is a two-time Olympic gold medalist in the 100, but has never medaled in the hurdles, even though it's her best event.

"There's no decision to be made at this point. I'm going to go home and pray on it," she said. "If a decision is to be made, I'm going to let God make that decision for me."

If Devers ends up making the 100 field, then withdrawals, Marion Jones would be in the 100 in Athens to defend her gold medal, even though she was fifth in the final in Sacramento. LaShante Moore, the fourth-place finisher in the 200, would take Edwards' place in that event.

Felix, at 18 the youngest member of the U.S. team, ran the second-fastest 200 in the world this year at 22.18 seconds. She was

among a group of young athletes who made the U.S. team, bringing fresh faces to the bedraggled sport's biggest stage.

"It's just great to have so many young people on this Olympic team. There's so many of us, and we're all excited, passionate and we're just ready to go."

Among those youngsters headed to Greece is the 21-year-old Webb, who broke Jim Ryun's 36-year-old high school mile record three years ago, then faded from sight. He spent one unhappy year at Michigan, then turned professional and was a miserable 10th in the U.S. championships last year.

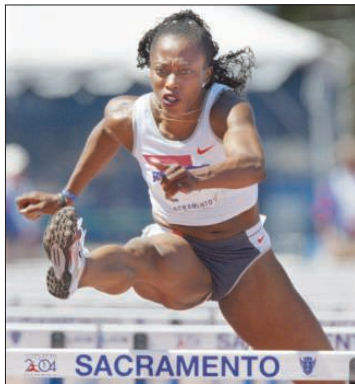
This year, he emerged as a world-class runner, beating a strong field in Ostrava, Czech Republic, then breaking Ryun's 37-year-old mark with the fastest mile of U.S. soil by an American.

On Sunday, Webb burst from the field with a 55-second third lap, a move that stunned his competitors. Thanks to a slow early pace, Webb's time was only 3:36.13.

"I knew that once I made my move, that would be it, and it would be over," Webb said. "With Webb at 200 to go, I knew I'd broken them."

Dragila won the pole vault at 15 feet, 7 inches, then took three unsuccessful shots at a record 16-1.

"I was feeling that good and I



Two-time Olympic 100-meter champion Gail Devers, 37, won the 100 hurdles on Sunday at the U.S. Olympic trials.

wanted to see if I had it in my bag of goods today," Dragila said. "But then the wind started shifting. I thought I could do it with the smaller pole. I gave it a good shot."

She will go to Athens to defend her gold medal against young Russian stars Svetlana Fedorova and Yelena Isinbayeva.

"I'm not done yet," Dragila said.

Edwards was the only athlete facing drug allegations to make the Olympic team.

Three of the "BALCO Four" — Tim Montgomery, Allan Harrison and Chryste Gaines — failed to qualify for the team.

The fourth, Michelle Collins, withdrew from the meet, citing a hamstring injury. The four have not

tested positive but are accused based on evidence gathered in the criminal probe of the Bay Area Laboratory Co-Operative.

Alvin Harrison's twin brother Calvin, who tested positive for a stimulant, also failed to make the team. Distance runner Regina Jacobs tested positive for a steroid and was banned from the sport for two years, one day after announcing her retirement from the sport.

There were reports this week that Mickey Grimes and Larry Wade also had tested positive for steroids. Grimes was seventh in the 200 final on Sunday. Wade, the world's third-fastest 110-meter hurdler this year, withdrew from the trials with an arm injury.

# Twentysomethings earn spots on U.S. women's gymnastics squad

By EDDIE PELLIS  
The Associated Press

NEW WAVERLY, Texas — There's a simple way to describe most 26-year-old female gymnasts: stars retired.

Mohini Bhardwaj and Annia Hatch are on a different career path, though.

These 20-somethings broke the mold and proved a lot of people wrong Sunday, each capping off unlikely comebacks to win spots on the American Olympic gymnastics team.

"All these girls have been working for this for four years. I've been working for it for 12," Bhardwaj said, her tears of joy just starting to dry after her Olympic quest was realized.

Bhardwaj, who turns 26 in September, is going to her first Olympics, almost eight years after beginning to give up the dream.

Hatch, 26, also is going for the first time, even after a five-year retirement.

Both are happy they got it another try.

"I think it's just a love of the sport," Hatch said. "I enjoy it. I have fun. To keep going and improve yourself every day, that's what makes it fun."



Annia Hatch, 26, will compete in her first Olympics after earning a spot on the U.S. gymnastics team on Sunday.

Joining them on the team are Courtney McCool, Terin Humphrey and co-national champions Carly Patterson and Courtney Kupets. Kupets conceded she'd never even met Bhardwaj until the Olympic trials last month.

"I've always known who she

was, though," Kupets said of Bhardwaj, whose training is funded by former "Baywatch" star Pamela Anderson.

Selected as alternates were Tasha Schwikert, the only holdover from the 2000 Olympic team; Chelsie Memmel, a double gold medalist in last summer's world championships; and Allyse Ishino. Left off the team completely was Hollie Visé, also a double gold medalist in the world championships.

Schwikert (Achilles'), Memmel (foot) and Visé (back) were slowed by injuries this summer.

"It's just a sign of how much talent we have," national team coordinator Martha Karolyi said. "You have to be in shape when the time comes."

After the team was announced, USA Gymnastics selected Kelli Hill, who coaches Kupets, as head coach of the team. She was a coach in 2000, when the United States finished fourth.

The announcement Sunday capped a grueling process.

After already going through the national championships and Olympic trials, 13 gymnasts came to the final two-day competition at the Karolyi ranch in the middle of Sam Houston State Forest.

There was so much tension,

that even the competition at Athens' Olympic Indoor Hall might not rival it.

The sweltering gym was packed with about 300 recreational gymnasts and their coaches, all lucky enough to have enrolled in Bela Karolyi's camp this week. The gym was so crowded, scores of fans had to be turned away. Some stayed anyway, pressing their faces against the glass door in hopes of catching a glimpse of the team that will be favored to win gold in Athens.

"The girls who made it proved they can perform under any conditions," Martha Karolyi said.

When the competition ended, Martha Karolyi, the other two members of the selection committee and USA Gymnastics President Bob Colorossi huddled to make their choices. Karolyi said it took only 10 minutes to decide the team, but they had to wait another two hours because the announcement was live on television.

When Bhardwaj heard her name, she started crying. The 11-time All-American at UCLA had to duck her head as she walked to exchange hugs with her teammates.

"It's been a long, rolling, stressful ride," Bhardwaj said. "I'm glad it's over. I don't think it's really hit me yet."

Then it was Hatch's turn. A wide grin spread across her face as she looked toward her husband and coach, Alan, and she, too, cried as she hugged her teammates.

Hatch won seven national titles in her native Cuba as well as a bronze medal on vault in the 1996 world championships. She qualified for the Atlanta Olympics that year, but Cuba didn't have enough money to send her.

She retired soon after and moved to Connecticut to marry Alan, who she met at the 1996 world championships. She didn't think about competing again until Alan told her in 2001 that an old teammate was back in the gym after having a baby. The next day, Hatch was in the gym, with dreams of representing her adopted country in the Olympics.

She had another setback last summer, when she blew out her knee the day before the world championships began. But she'd come too far to stop.

Did she ever consider giving up? "No," she said. "I love gymnastics too much."

# It's aces high for A's, Red Sox

The Associated Press

Mark Mulder and Curt Schilling just keep winning. They don't think that's anything special, though. After all, that's what aces are supposed to do.

Mulder pitched three-hit ball into the ninth inning Sunday to become the first 13-game winner in the majors, leading the Oakland Athletics to a 5-3 victory over the visiting Chicago White Sox.

The left-hander won his 11th consecutive decision, outpitching Esteban Loaiza in a matchup of All-Stars. Mulder (13-2) struck out eight, walked two and hasn't lost in 14 starts since April 28.

"It just seems everything is going right for me," he said.

Schilling won his fourth straight decision, allowing one run and three hits in eight innings of Boston's 6-2 victory in Anaheim. He and Pedro Martinez are a combined 14-1 since May 19, and the Red Sox are 27-11 when Schilling or Martinez start. The rest of the time, Boston is 23-29.

"That's not pressure, that's expectation. You get that through production," Schilling said. "People wouldn't be expecting me to win if I hadn't done it before. That's part of the pride I take in doing my job. I expect that we should win on the days I pitch. And if we don't, then I've done something tremendously wrong."

David Ortiz homered and drove in four runs as Boston gained a split of the four-game series. Schilling (12-4) struck out seven, walked none and retired 17 of the last 19 hitters.

Pitching on nine days' rest after sitting out the All-Star Game because of a sore right ankle, the six-time All-Star improved

## AL Roundup

to 9-1 with a 2.04 ERA this season when pitching with more than four days off between starts.

"I was probably a little more sluggish starting off the game than I expected to be, but being sluggish is no reason not to be able to pitch," Schilling said.

Ortiz hit a go-ahead, three-run homer and an RBI single, increasing his league-leading RBIs total to 83. Gabe Kapler also homered off John Lackey (7-9).

In Oakland, Bobby Crosby gave the Athletics a 4-3 lead with a two-run homer off Loaiza (8-5) that glanced off the glove of center fielder Aaron Rowand in the sixth inning.

Jermaine Dye had two RBI doubles and Octavio Dotel got two outs for his fifth save with the A's.

Jose Valentin and Aaron Rowand homered off Mulder before he settled down.

**Tigers 4, Yankees 2:** The host Tigers surpassed their 2003 victory total with 2½ months left in the season, beating New York behind the pitching of Nate Robertson (9-4) and the hitting of Carlos Pena.

Detroit, which split the four-game series against the defending AL champions, improved to 44-47. Last year, the Tigers set an AL record for losses by going 43-119. The Tigers won the season series from New York 4-3.

The Tigers easily set a record for fewest games needed to surpass their victory total of the previous year, according to the Elias Sports Bureau. The previous mark of 106 was set by the 1962 Philadelphia Phillies (48-58 after going 47-107) and the 1989

Baltimore Orioles (55-51 following a 54-107 season).

Pena was 3-for-3, including a solo homer off Jon Lieber (7-6). Ruben Sierra hit a two-run shot for the Yankees.

**Devil Rays 7, Orioles 2:** Mark Hendrickson pitched a four-hitter for his second career complete game and Carl Crawford hit a two-run triple in a five-run sixth inning.

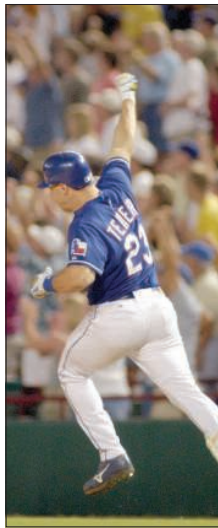
Hendrickson (7-7) struck out six and walked one in host Tampa Bay's first complete game since Victor Zambrano beat Oakland 11-2 on Sept. 7, 2003. Hendrickson, a former NBA player, retired the first 12 batters before Javy Lopez opened the fifth with a ground-rule double to right.

**Mariners 7, Indians 5:** Randy Winn hit a tiebreaking, two-run double with two outs in the eighth inning. Victor Martinez tied it 5-5 in the top of the eighth with his first career pinch-hit homer.

Host Seattle's Bucky Jacobsen homered and drove in two runs a day after hitting his first career homer. Lou Merloni homered and drove in four runs for Cleveland.

**Royals 4, Twins 3 (10):** Dee Brown won it with a single off Aaron Lultz after Grant Balfour (3-1) walked the bases loaded in the 10th. The host Royals took three of four from Minnesota, which remained a half-game behind first-place Chicago in the AL Central. Lew Ford homered for the Twins, who have lost six of seven.

**Rangers 7, Blue Jays 5:** Mark Teixeira's grand slam off Vinnie Chulk (0-1) keyed a six-run eighth inning and the Rangers handed visiting Toronto its sixth straight loss. Doug Brocail (1-1) earned his first victory since July 23, 2000, for Detroit. Francisco Cordero got his 28th save.



Texas' Mark Teixeira exults after hitting an eighth-inning grand slam against Toronto.

**Pentagon**  
CHANNEL

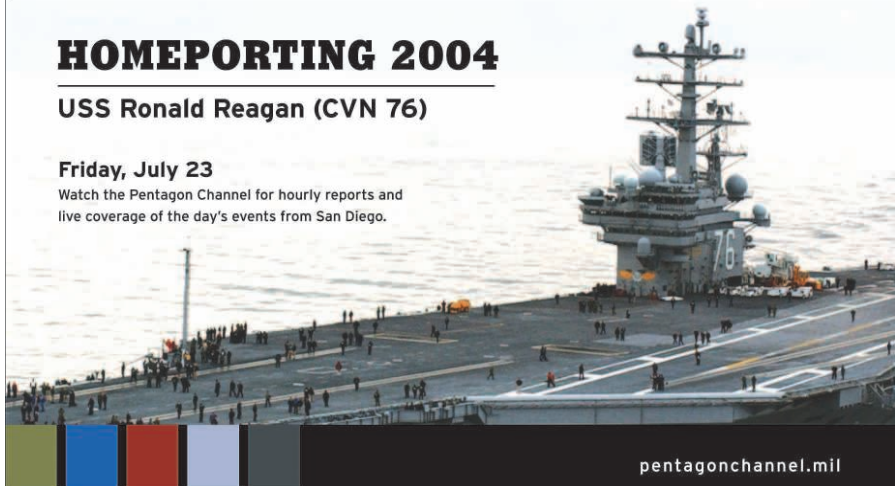
Serving Those Who Serve

## HOMEPORTING 2004

### USS Ronald Reagan (CVN 76)

Friday, July 23

Watch the Pentagon Channel for hourly reports and live coverage of the day's events from San Diego.



pentagonchannel.mil

## Major League Baseball scoreboard

American League										National League									
East Division										West Division									
W	L	PCT	GB	AB	R	H	R	BB	SO	W	L	PCT	GB	AB	R	H	R	BB	SO
New York	40	16	71%		39	48	56	7	10	Atlanta	40	16	71%		39	48	56	7	10
Boston	39	18	68%	1 1/2	39	48	56	7	10	Philadelphia	40	16	71%		39	48	56	7	10
Baltimore	39	18	68%	1 1/2	39	48	56	7	10	New York	40	16	71%		39	48	56	7	10
Chicago	39	18	68%	1 1/2	39	48	56	7	10	St. Louis	40	16	71%		39	48	56	7	10
Central Division										Central Division									
Chicago	41	15	73%		40	50	60	8	12	St. Louis	40	16	71%		39	48	56	7	10
Minnesota	43	13	77%		40	50	60	8	12	Philadelphia	40	16	71%		39	48	56	7	10
Detroit	44	12	78%		40	50	60	8	12	St. Louis	40	16	71%		39	48	56	7	10
Tampa Bay	44	12	78%		40	50	60	8	12	Philadelphia	40	16	71%		39	48	56	7	10
West Division										Central Division									
Texas	40	16	71%		40	50	60	8	12	St. Louis	40	16	71%		39	48	56	7	10
Oakland	39	18	68%	1 1/2	39	48	56	7	10	Philadelphia	40	16	71%		39	48	56	7	10
Seattle	38	19	66%	2	38	47	55	6	11	St. Louis	40	16	71%		39	48	56	7	10
Sunday's games										Philadelphia	40	16	71%		39	48	56	7	10
Det. 4, N.Y. Yankees 2										St. Louis	40	16	71%		39	48	56	7	10
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N.Y. Yankees (Contreras 7-3) at Tampa Bay										St. Louis	40	16	71%		39	48	56	7	10
Toronto (Bash 1-0) at Oakland (Harden 4-0)										Philadelphia	40	16	71%		39	48	56	7	10
Cleveland (Westbrook 6-5) at Anaheim										St. Louis	40	16	71%		39	48	56	7	10
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Los Angeles (Lowe 3-7) at Seattle (Pirino 5-0)										St. Louis	40	16	71%		39	48	56	7	10
Chicago White Sox (Garland 7-4) at Texas										Philadelphia	40	16	71%		39	48	56	7	10
(Wadsworth 1-1)										St. Louis	40	16	71%		39	48	56	7	10
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# Surging Braves tie Phils for first

The Associated Press

ATLANTA — The Atlanta Braves are back in contention for a 13th straight division title, tied with Philadelphia for the NL East lead heading into a two-game series with the Phillies.

The Braves completed their sixth straight series victory Sunday, routing Montreal 16-5 behind Eli Mar-

ro's first-inning grand slam. "We took two of three from them in Philadelphia, and now we've got them here," Chipper Jones said. "I like our chances."

Jones finished a double short of the cycle and had four RBIs, increasing his batting average nine points to .226.

"I dug myself a pretty big hole," he said. "I've struggled with my swing. But it's not how you start, it's how you finish. I feel I can go out and help this team win the division, and that's the most important thing."

J.D. Drew extended his career-best hitting streak to 15 games with two singles. John Thomson (7-7) allowed three runs and eight hits in five innings to win for the first time in three starts.

Scott Downs (1-4) allowed nine runs in two-plus innings for Montreal, which traded Carl Everett to the Chicago White Sox for minor league pitcher Jon Rauch and Gary Majewski.

**Mets 6, Phillies 1:** Al Leiter (6-3) allowed four hits in six shut-out innings, striking out a season-high seven to win for the fifth time in six starts to help the host Mets gain a four-game split.



Houston's Craig Biggio homered to help Phil Garner get his first victory as manager of the Astros.



San Francisco's Ray Durham jumps over Colorado baserunner Preston Wilson while completing a double play to end the fifth inning on Sunday.

Mike Cameron and Vance Wilson set contested homers in the fifth off Brett Myers (5-7). Braden Loper got four outs for his 19th save, and the Mets (46-45) moved back over .500, two games off the lead.

**Astros 5, Padres 3:** Roger Clemens won his first game since June 24, stopping the host Astros' four-game losing streak and giving Phil Garner his first victory as manager.

Clemens (11-3), rocked for six runs Tuesday night in the All-Star Game in Houston, got his 32nd victory, moving three behind Nolan Ryan and Don Sutton, who share 12th place on the career list. Clemens allowed two runs and four hits in seven innings.

Brad Lidge got his eighth save and Carlos Beltran, Jeff Kent and Craig Biggio hit solo homers off Brian Lawrence (10-7).

**Cardinals 10, Reds 4:** Mike Matheny drove in three runs and Jeff Suppan (9-5) won his third straight start, allowing four runs and seven hits in six-plus innings. The visiting Cardinals won for the 11th time in 13 games.

Jose Acevedo (4-8) gave up six runs, seven hits and three walks in 2 1/2 innings, his shortest outing of the season other than in a game shortened by a rain delay.

**Brewers 4, Cubs 2:** Chris Capuano (4-5) allowed one run and four hits in six innings, and Scott Podsednik had three hits.

Kerry Wood gave up one run in six innings, but visiting Milwaukee went ahead 3-1 in the seventh on Chris Magruder's run-scoring grounder off Francis Beltrami (2-2) and Podsednik's RBI double off Kent Mercker.

Danny Kolb pitched a perfect ninth for his 28th save.

**Dodgers 10, D-Backs 3:** Cesar Lottus drove in a career-best four runs. Adrian Beltre hit his 23rd homer to match his high and visiting Los Angeles completed a four-game sweep.

The Dodgers, who built an 8-2 lead by scoring four runs each in the second and fourth innings, have won six straight games and 15 of 18.

Jason Werth had a career-high four hits to back Jose Lima (9-3), who won his third straight start by giving up three runs in eight innings.

Elmer Dessens (1-6), winless since April 25, allowed eight runs — five earned — and 10 hits in 3 1/2 innings.

**Rockies 10, Giants 9:** Jeremy Burnitz and Preston Wilson honored off Matt Herges (4-4) and Aaron Miles capped a four-run ninth with an RBI single as the rock Rockies won for the 10th time in 14 games.

San Francisco went ahead 9-6 after David Cruz hit a tiebreaking homer to lead off the eighth and Michael Tucker and Barry Bonds hit solo shots in the ninth.

Tim Lincecum (4-1) won it despite allowing two runs and two hits in one inning.

**Pirates 4, Marlins 2:** Pinch-hitter Bobby Hill had a go-ahead homer off Billy Koch (0-2) leading off the eighth and the Pirates won their 10th straight at home.

Salomon Torres (6-3) won despite allowing Mike Lowell's tying homer in the seventh and Jose Mesa pitched the ninth for his 25th save in 26 chances.

Florida has lost 10 of 14, dropping the defending World Series champions below .500 at 45-46.

# Court bars release of Bryant transcripts

The Associated Press

DENVER — The Colorado Supreme Court ruled Monday the news media have no right to publish mistakenly released details from a closed-door hearing in the Kobe Bryant sexual assault case, narrowly blocking the trial judge in a First Amendment clash.

The court fight centers on transcripts from a two-day hearing last month that were accidentally e-mailed by a court reporter to seven news organizations, including The Associated Press.

The judge quickly issued an order threatening a contempt citation against any news organization that released details from the hearing, which focused on attempts by Bryant's attorneys to have his accuser's sex life and money she received from a victim's compensation program introduced as evidence. Those decisions are pending.

None of the details have been printed or broadcast, but attorneys for the media groups appealed the order from District Judge Terry Ruckriegle. In a 4-3 ruling, the high court acknowledged the order amounts to prior restraint of a free press, which is barred by the Constitution. The court, however, said such a step was permissible given the context of the Bryant case.

Bryant, 25, is accused of raping a worker at a Vail-area resort last summer. He has pleaded not guilty to felony sexual assault.

The 36-year-old Serb center, who is a free agent after spending six seasons with the Kings, said that Sacramento was not willing to give him more than \$2.5 million per season to stay with the club.

"As it seems now, I'm definite-

ly leaving Sacramento," Divac said. "It was a great six years in Sacramento."

He said that probably, "the Lakers will be my [next] club." "I'm sad that I'm leaving, but the Kings did not show any interest to keep me," Divac said. "I was willing to play for less money, but not as less as the Kings had offered me."

Divac joined the Lakers in 1989, spending seven seasons in Los Angeles. After two seasons with the then-Charlotte Hornets, Divac joined the Kings in 1998.

**Davenport edges V. Williams**

STANFORD, Calif. — Lindsay Davenport held off Venus Williams 7-6 (4), 5-7, 7-6 (4) Sunday to win her third Bank of the West Classic title.

Davenport snapped a six-match losing streak to Williams in the longtime rivals' 23rd meeting — and quite possibly the best. After countless thrilling points in a tense, well-played match stretching nearly three hours, Davenport thrust her arms into the air in relief when Williams' final backhand went wide.

Davenport, the second seed, has won three of her finals meetings with Williams at the Stanford tournament, including previous victories in 1998 and 1999. It was Davenport's first WTA singles title and her third this year.

Williams, the top seed, fell just a few points short of her third title of the season.

**Everett traded to White Sox**

ATLANTA — Carl Everett re-joined the Chicago White Sox on Sunday as the switch-hitting outfielder was traded from the Montreal Expos for minor league pitchers Jon Rauch and Gary Majewski.

With slugger Frank Thomas on the disabled list and right fielder Magglio Ordonez slowed by a sore knee, the White Sox were looking for a versatile player with some pop.

The 33-year-old Everett played the final 73 games of last season for Chicago before signing a \$7.5 million, two-year contract with Montreal in December.

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# Hamilton: The pride of Oquawka, Ill.

HAMILTON, FROM BACK PAGE

Earlier, as he walked off the 16th hole with a two-stroke lead in the final round, his wife, Jacque, talked about how this tournament felt like the Honda Classic, won in March by an unknown golfer named Todd Hamilton. It felt serene. It was the strangest thing, because most of the time, Hamilton is a bundle of nerves on the course.

"We've felt this way for the past three days, a sense of calm," she said. "I told him last night, 'You have nothing to lose. Everybody else does.'"

Then she said, "But it's not over until the fat lady sings."

The fat lady was warming up for a playoff. In the last three holes of regulation, Els went birdie-birdie-par, leaving each golfer at 10-under 274. It was at this point that most everyone with working brain cells thought Els would run away with the tournament. But most everyone didn't know Todd Hamilton, winner of five tournaments around the globe since January 2003.

"I've won golf tournaments worldwide, but nothing that had a stage like this," he admitted afterward. "If you can win a golf tournament, [even if it's] a club championship, you can focus on that and transfer it to your next match."

Saying your next "match" is the British Open is like saying your next "karaoke night" is at Madison Square Garden. Els might have blinked first, boggieing the third hole of the playoff, but Hamilton doubters still had to outnumber Hamilton believers by about 200 to 1. That was an improvement on the betting line of 250-1 on Hamilton to start the Open.

So it would come to this: Els had a birdie putt on the final playoff hole, the 18th, and Hamilton was about 30 yards short of the green.



Todd Hamilton played from the rough on the 18th hole Sunday in the final round of the British Open. Hamilton bogeyed the hole and was forced into a playoff with Ernie Els. After spending the past decade toiling in golf's most far-flung outposts, the 38-year-old PGA rookie beat the world's No. 2 golfer to win the tournament.

AP

The most famous man from Oquawka, Ill., took out a hybrid club he sometimes uses instead of a 3-wood off the tee and chipped the ball to within 2 feet. If he had been any more relaxed, he would have been in the lotus position.

Els missed his putt.

Doubt gave way to suspended belief and finally, grudgingly, to belief.

Even Hamilton referred to the whole chain of events as "this bit of magic." He had struggled to get to this point. He had thought of quitting in 1991 after struggling on the Asian tour, though after some soul-searching he came to the conclusion

he wasn't qualified to do anything else but play golf.

He had taught himself the game on a nine-hole course in Biggsville, Ill. He loved golf, loved it enough as a kid to once play seven rounds on that course in one day. He won two Illinois high school state championships.

This is a man who had eaten water buffalo in India. That had to count for something Sunday.

"It seems like a fairy tale," Hamilton said, "and to me it really is."

"Sometimes truth is better than fiction."

Rick Morrissey is a sports columnist for the Chicago Tribune.

## LPGA's Dunn breaks through

The Associated Press

VIENNA, Ohio — With a clap of thunder, Moira Dunn won her first LPGA tournament on her 24th try.

Dunn, putting out moments after lightning flashed in the background, birdied the 16th and 17th holes to win the Giant Eagle LPGA Classic on Sunday.

### Golf roundup

ways believed it would come. That's what got me here."

It was Dunn's first victory in a decade on tour. The Utica, N.Y., native twice finished second in 2001.

She collected \$150,000 for the victory, shooting a final-round 65 to finish at 12-under 204 — two strokes ahead of Young-A Yang — at muddy Squaw Creek Country Club.

The final round was suspended for 2 hours, 40 minutes because of lightning and rain.

### Bryd makes late run in B.C. Open

ENDICOTT, N.Y. — Jonathan Bryd rolled in a 10-foot birdie putt on the 15th hole to break an eight-way tie for the lead and added another birdie on the next hole to win the rain-delayed B.C. Open by one stroke over Ted Purdy.

Purdy missed a chance to force a playoff when his 3-foot putt for birdie slid past the hole on No. 18.

Bryd finished at 20-under 268 for his second PGA victory and took home the winner's share of \$540,000.

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# Armstrong's path to sixth title clear

## Texan appears to have dismissed his challengers in Tour de France

NIMES, France — Stage 14 was a day for the Tour de France to catch its breath, to rest its weary legs and to ponder what lies ahead.

Mountains lie ahead, mostly. And this is why Europe's attendant wrinkled media, the "cyclarati," are yawning and muttering and saying that Lance Armstrong, the mountain monster, already has clinched his sixth Tour title.

### Gil LeBreton



Still premature, of course. Armstrong says he has had nightmares about some kid's "musette," a small yellow souvenir bag, catching in his handlebars.

"And we all know what can happen then," Armstrong warned, remembering his abrupt tumble last year ascending the Col du Tourmalet.

"Oui," but as the champ also knows, it's not as if his road to Paris is lined with speed bumps. Sunday's stage, therefore, couldn't have come at a better time for Team Postal. The long (139 miles), mostly flat course from Carcassonne to Nîmes was like a ride to the beach, which almost was, given the Mediterranean's balmy promixity.

The stage's winner? Hm. Let me see. It's in the notes here somewhere.

He was, it was Aitor Gonzalez, who proved that not every Spanish

rider was content to be back in the peloton, riding in 12th place.

But here's all you need to know about the way the race leaders treated the day: The top 10 finishers all had times within 43 seconds of one another, and the next 107 riders more or less finished in a tie for the 11th place.

You could have hidden an elephant in the peloton, which mostly finished a handy, official 14 minutes and 12 seconds behind.

"We went around [28.5 mph] for the first two hours," yellow jersey wearer Thomas Voeckler noted, "and U.S. Postal wasn't letting anyone leave the peloton."

The three race leaders thus remain the same. France's Voeckler has a 22-second lead on Armstrong, followed by Italy's Ivan Basso, 1:39 behind.

And, as Voeckler's comment verified, is there any question who's in command of this race? No one expects Armstrong to get anywhere near the curbs or "musettes" in these final six stages. His lieutenants will ride his flanks, for as long as they can, and ward off any danger.

The few lingering mysteries mostly surround Basso. How much legs does the new challenger still have? What kind of time trial rider is he? A year ago in the rain on the road to Nantes, Stage 19, Basso finished more than two minutes (2:07) slower than Lance.

And if Basso can't challenge him after Wednesday's time trial climb to L'Alpe d'Huez, the question is, who can?

Armstrong gave a respectful nod, mentioning Andreas Klöden of Germany and Spain's Fran-



Lance Armstrong looks at a map of France as he sits by a fountain near his hotel in southern France on Monday, the second rest day of the Tour de France. Armstrong is in second place in the overall standings.

cisco Mancebo. But talk about speed bumps — until last weekend, Klöden was minding the peloton, fetching food bags for Jan Ullrich's T-Mobile Team.

On his team's Web site, Ullrich wrote Sunday: "Use 'Klodi' just as a helper, when he's in the form of his life! No way!"

Once Armstrong's biggest fear, Ullrich struggled through the Pyrenees and now rides nearly seven minutes behind Lance. Ullrich has admitted his teammate Klöden was "the better man" in the Pyrenees.

"So I've given him carte blanche in the Alps," Ullrich

wrote.

"If I think he has the stronger legs, then he not only should, but must go for it alone."

Klöden crashed and had to drop out of the 2003 Tour. In his interviews with the German media, he has been noticeably deferential to Ullrich, the 1997 champ and five-time runner-up.

But judging from the furrowed brow on Ullrich last weekend and the pool of sweat under his carcase, he seems in no position to help anyone.

The French newspapers are concentrating instead on the homeboy, Voeckler, calling him

### 91st TOUR DE FRANCE

## Racing in low gear

The Tour goes back into the mountains again from Valréas to Villard-de-Lans. Grades are up to 7.4 percent.

### Stage 15

Tuesday, July 20

0 100 mi  
0 100 km



Source: Tour de France

"La Saint-Thomas" and lauding his "h'raïque" ride Sunday to Plateau de Beille.

Fine, but the yellow jersey is going to be due back at Blockbuster, Armstrong has suggested that Tuesday's ride, Valréas to Villard-de-Lans, doesn't present an emphatically steep challenge, and so the overall lead is likely to change hands Wednesday at L'Alpe d'Huez.

Yes, anything can happen. Armstrong's eventual 2003 victory proved that.

But in that race, he always seemed to be pedaling uphill, with Ullrich's shadow not far behind.

This time, as of last weekend, Lance Armstrong appears to have everything already in hand, his nightmare unveiled.

Is there a challenger left in the house?

Gil LeBreton writes for the Fort Worth Star-Telegram.

# Earnhardt spends night in hospital after fiery crash

BY JOE STIGLICH

Contra Costa Times  
(Walnut Creek, Calif.)

SONOMA, Calif. — NASCAR superstar Dale Earnhardt Jr. was hospitalized with second-degree burns after he was involved in a violent single-car crash during a practice session Sunday morning at Infineon Raceway.

Earnhardt was on his very first lap in preparation for Sunday's Infineon Grand Prix of Sonoma, an American Le Mans Series event, when he lost control of his Chevrolet Corvette C5-R.

He spun out and crashed into a concrete barrier in the Turn 8 section of the 12-turn road course. His car quickly was engulfed by flames as high as 30 feet, a scary scene that was visible from most anywhere around the facility.

"I saw a fireball go up," said Infineon Raceway President Steve Page, who was in his office high



INFINEON RACEWAY/AP

Emergency crews work to extinguish Dale Earnhardt Jr.'s car after he crashed into a barrier during practice for an American Le Mans Series race in Sonoma, Calif. Earnhardt suffered minor burns in the crash.

above the track when the accident occurred at about 9 a.m. "I could see through my binoculars. I had a pretty good idea of what car it was."

Earnhardt, making a cameo in

the American Le Mans Series because there was no NASCAR Next Cup race this weekend, was able to climb out of the car on his own. He was treated for about 10 minutes at Infineon's medical cen-

ter before being airlifted by helicopter to compete in the ALMS, a sports car series patterned after the famous 24 Hours of Le Mans in France.

Considering Earnhardt's father, Dale Sr., was killed in a 2001 crash at the Daytona 500, Sunday's incident was all the more eerie.

Video footage captured just how lucky he was to walk away on his own. A camera installed in the car showed that Earnhardt's entire helmet was engulfed by flames.

Corvette program manager Doug Fehan said the fire broke out when the filler neck connected to the car's fuel cell was snapped by the impact of the crash, spreading fuel everywhere.

"Had this occurred on the second lap, there would have been no fire," Fehan said. "The car had a full tank of fuel."

Fehan said the car "did just get away from him."



# War Is Tough on Families

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For more information, or to learn how you can help, please contact your local Red Cross or visit [www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org). Thank you.



Marsha Evans  
President and CEO, American Red Cross  
Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy (Ret.)



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*Together, we can save a life*

## SPORTS



Atlanta catches up to first-place Philadelphia in NL East, Page 28

# A world traveler punches his ticket

## British Open winner Hamilton never stopped believing

**I**f they thought Todd Hamilton was going to cave in to the pressure Sunday, if they thought he was going to collapse right there in the gorse at the age of 38, after 12 years of playing in Japan, after five years of playing on the Asian tour, after practicing in the ice and snow of western Illinois in the offseason, they didn't know him.

Of course they didn't know him. The fans at Royal Troon might know figure skater Scott Hamilton and might possibly remember Alexander Hamilton, but they couldn't have picked out Todd Hamilton in a pub full of pro golfers. Then again, neither could most anybody outside of the extended Todd Hamilton family.

Hamilton, impassive and imperturbable to the very end, won a heart-stopping play-

off duel with Ernie Els in the British Open on Sunday. Impossible? No. He might not have been Els, out of South Africa, but he certainly wasn't Ben Curtis, out of nowhere.

Hamilton had won on the PGA Tour this year. Improbable? Sure, in the way that some dreams are improbable.

That could be why Hamilton was holding the winner's trophy Sunday as if it were a pillow.

"He's talked about the Claret Jug ever since he was a little kid," said his mother, Jane, who helped raise him in Oquawka, Ill., a town of 1,500 people on the banks of the Mississippi River.

**Rick Morrissey**



Yes, Hamilton is a small-town guy, but he's a small-town guy who has seen poverty in New Delhi and traffic jams in Bangkok. He's a small-town guy who once witnessed a golfer cheat during a tournament in Seoul by kicking a ball.

Even when you don't want to, sometimes you see a lot.

When Hamilton arrived at the 72nd hole Sunday evening, with the gallery roaring for Els, his playing partner, a victory seemed a lot to ask of a guy who needed eight attempts to get his PGA touring card. And when he knocked his ball all over that hole on his way to a bogey and a four-hole playoff, it almost seemed too much to expect he could hold off Els, who already had won two majors by playoffs.

Curtis won the British Open as a rookie last year, and it was the kind of squeezably



Todd Hamilton toiled in obscurity on the Asian tour before claiming the Claret Jug, awarded to the winner of the British Open.

soft story people like to embrace. But two straight years of this sort of thing? Against Els? Couldn't happen.

But they didn't know Todd Hamilton.

SEE HAMILTON ON PAGE 29

## One last hurdle on the way to Athens



Terrence Trammell, left, leads the pack in a semifinal heat in the 110-meter hurdles on Sunday, the final day of the U.S. Olympic track and field trials in Sacramento, Calif. Trammell won his heat and went on to win the finals and qualify for a spot on the U.S. team. Also among Sunday's qualifiers were two-time Olympic gold medalist Gail Devers and emerging 18-year-old sprint star Allyson Felix. See story on Page 25.



**Stellar pitching keeps A's tied with Red Sox for wild-card lead**

Page 26



**Earnhardt Jr. will race Sunday despite fiery crash**

Page 30